the advantage of preparing his model in the studio and under the immediate eye of his old master, Professor Rauch. The attitude of his Hero is noble, and the composition of the figures is graceful and effective. The bronze cast is not expected to be ready for two or three years yet.

Among the votes of money recently passed by the French Assembly we notice a grant for the resumption of the suspended excavations at Nineveh—the renewed excavations to be directed by M. Place, the successor of M. Botta as French consul at Mosul; another for fitting out a scientific expedition to be despatched into Assyria to complete the discoveries recently made in that part of the world; and a third for clearing out a temple of Serapis, discovered in the environs of Memphis by M. Mariette, and conveying to Paris the statues and works of Art which it contains.

Nine new rooms were opened this day week in the Museum of the Louvre. The collections which they contain are so arranged as to illustrate in groups and periods the history of French sculpture from the *renaissance* of Art under Louis XII. to modern times,—the series of works closing with the productions of Houdon and Chaudet. In England we have nothing to compare with such a series. Our best works are scattered in private houses all over the country. We have, it is true, valuable though imperfect collections of some individual sculptors—such, for instance, as the Flaxman Gallery in London University;—but any approach to a general collection, such as would exhibit the progress of the art in this country and afford specimens of the styles of its great masters, we have not, either as national or as private property. The want of such a gallery—the need of a suitable building in which to arrange it—should be, among many others, a strong argument for the retention of the Crystal Palace.—Three other new rooms are in a forward state at the Louvre, and will shortly be opened to the public. They will be devoted to a collection of the sculptures of the middle ages.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MR. H. J. LINCOLN ON ROSSINI.—On TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, at the LECTURE-HALL, GREENWICH, at Eight.—Admission free to Members; Non-Members, by Tickets, 1s. each (Children 6d.), to be obtained at the Institution.

Punch's Playhouse.—'The Alderman's Gown; or, a Trip to Paris' is the name of a little piece produced here on Monday. At Boulogne, the civic vestment is missed,—and the dignitary in question put to consequent inconvenience. Mr. Tilbury is charged with the exhibition of these perplexities; and subsequently dresses himself as an old lady—attends a ball and supper,—and dances the polka with the French republicans. The humour of the situations is broad,—but the wit of the dialogue is somewhat forced and heavy.

MISCELLANEA

The Archives of Belgium.—The *Moniteur Belge* publishes a report by M. Gachard to the Minister of the Interior relative to the old accounts of the towns and castellanies preserved in the archives of the kingdom. All the accounts for Flanders, which have been deposited since Philippe-le-Hardi at the *Chambre des Comptes* of Lille, were given up to Belgium by virtue of a special article of the Treaty of May 16, 1769. In 1770, they were added to the collection of archives at Bruges and Brussels:—and thus were obtained complete the records of which M. Gachard has drawn up a table.—He finds that there exist 9,464 general accounts, in which are to be found all the revenues and expenditure of the towns and castellanies. He also enumerates 962 private accounts; the most remarkable of which are—that for the expenses incurred for the siege of Calais, in 1436,—and that for assistance afforded by the inhabitants of Courtrai, in 1437, to Philippe-le-Bon for enabling him to compel the revolted townsmen of Bruges to surrender.—Besides these documents, relating to towns of Flanders alone, there are 1,877 which refer to other towns of the ancient Netherlands. All are incomplete, arising from war, fire, or the neglect of governments. These papers are, nevertheless, said to be of inestimable value.

To Correspondents.—J. W. R.—W. H. D.—G. M.—W. S.—E. C. H.—J. W. B.—Sir R. S.—received.

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THE PICTORIAL BIBLE; illustrated with Steel Engravings after celebrated Pictures, and many hundred Woodcuts; with Original Notes, explanatory of Passages connected with the History, Geography, Natural History, Literature, and Antiquities of the Sacred Scriptures. By JOHN KITTO, D.D., F.S.A.

London: Wm. S. Orr & Co. Amen-corner.

COUNTY FIRE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street, and 2, Royal Exchange Buildings, London. Established 1806.

It is respectfully notified to parties holding policies in this office, the renewals of which fall due at Michaelmas, that the same should be paid on or before the 14th of October. The receipts are lying at the Offices in London, and in the hands of the several Agents.

The terms of the County Fire Office are highly advantageous to the Insured, and have secured to it a large share of public approbation. All claims are settled with promptitude and liberality. Full particulars will be immediately furnished to parties applying personally, or by post, to either of the above Offices, or to any of the Agents, who are appointed in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom.

JOHN A. BEAUMONT, Managing Director.

UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE, (FIRE. LIFE. ANNUITIES.)

Cornhill and Baker-street, London; College-green, Dublin; and Gruenenger-street, Hamburgh. Instituted A.D. 1714.

LIFE.—Reduced Rates for Young and Middle Ages, with the Guarantee of a Company in existence for nearly 140 years.

The last BONUS (1848) gave ADDITIONS to Policies varying from 25 to 70 per Cent. on the previous Seven Years' Premiums.

Lower Rates without Profits.

Two-thirds only of the Premium may be paid until death.

Decreasing and Increasing Rates of Premium, and half-yearly or quarterly.

Loans granted. Medical Fees allowed.

FIRE INSURANCES at the usual rates, and PROFITS returned on Policies taken out for seven years by prompt payment.

October, 1851. THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.

ENGINEERS', MASONIC, and UNIVERSAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Head Office, 345, Strand, London, opposite Waterloo Bridge.

Assurance against Railway and all other accidents, whether on shore or afloat.

Policies indisputable.

A person, aged 30, by payment of 12s. 1d. per quarter, may secure to his family 100*l.* in the event of his death, occurring from any accidental circumstance whatever, or from any description of disease.

No charge for policy stamps or entrance fees.

Medical referees paid by the Society for their reports.

The 12s. 1d. per quarter includes all expenses.

The number of policies now issued exceeds 1,200.

London, Suburban, and Provincial Agents wanted.

By order, FREDERICK LAWRANCE, Actuary and Sec.

THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Established 1836,

8 and 10, WATER-STREET, LIVERPOOL; 20 and 21, POULTRY, LONDON.

Capital, Two Millions Sterling. Reserved Funds, 268,000*l.* Liability of Proprietors unlimited.

MICHAELMAS POLICIES should be renewed within fifteen days after the 29th September; the Renewal Receipts are in the hands of the Agents.

FIRE INSURANCE at home and abroad on liberal terms, and no charge for new policies.

LIFE INSURANCE in all its branches.

LIFE POLICIES, when taken out under Table No. 2, have FIXED BONUSES GUARANTEED TO THEM, not contingent on Profits, without any Liability of Partnership to the Assured, and at moderate Premiums.

Prospectuses, and all information, may be had on application.

BENJAMIN HENDERSON, Resident Secretary.
SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO INTENDING ASSURERS.

INTENDING Life Assurers are respectfully invited to compare the principles, rates, and whole provisions of the

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

with those of any existing company.

In this Society the whole profits are divisible among the policyholders, who are at the same time exempt from personal liability. It claims superiority, however, over other mutual offices in the following particulars:

1. Premiums at early and middle ages about a fourth lower. See specimens below.*
2. A more accurate adjustment of the rates of premium to the several ages.
3. A principle in the division of the surplus more safe, equitable, and favourable to good lives.
4. Exemption from entry money.

* Annual Premiums for 100*l.*, with Whole Profits.

Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55
£1 15 8	1 18 0	2 1 6	2 6 10	2 14 9	3 5 9	4 1 7	5 1 11

* Annual Premiums for 100*l.*, with Whole Profits, payable for 21 years only.

Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50
£2 7 10	2 10 8	2 14 6	2 19 6	3 6 4	3 14 5	4 7 2

All policies indisputable unless obtained by fraud.

Forms of proposal, prospectus containing full tables, copies of the Twelfth Annual Report, and every information, will be forwarded (gratis) on application at the London office, 12, Moorgate-street.

GEORGE GRANT, Agent and Secretary for London.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LONDON.

SHARE OF PROFIT INCREASED FROM ONE-HALF TO FOUR-FIFTHS.

Policies effected with this Society after Midsummer, 1820, and remaining in force at each Septennial period of division, will PARTICIPATE IN FOUR-FIFTHS of the Net Profits of the Society accruing after Midsummer, 1820, in proportion to their contributions to those profits, and according to the conditions contained in the Society's Prospectus and Act of Parliament.

The Premiums required by this Society for insuring young lives are much lower than in many other old-established offices, and Insurers are fully protected from all risk by an ample guarantee fund in addition to the accumulated funds derived from the investments of Premiums.

CHARLES HENRY LIDDERDALE, Actuary.

SUN FIRE OFFICE, Established 1710. Threadneedle-street; Craig's-court, Charing-cross; and No. 65, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, London.

Managers.

William R. Hamilton, Esq. *Chairman and Treasurer.*
Charles Bell Ford, Esq. *Deputy-Chairman.*

William Beresford, Esq. M.P.	H. F. Shaw Lefevre, Esq.
The Hon. P. Pleydell Bouverie.	Henry Littledale, Esq.
Harry Chester, Esq.	George Warde Norman, Esq.
Samuel Pepys Cockerell, Esq.	Brice Pearse, Esq.
Raikes Currie, Esq. M.P.	Charles Richard Pole, Esq.
John Drummond, Esq.	Lambert Pole, Esq.
Russell Ellice, Esq.	Charles Ranken, Esq.
William Franks, Esq.	Henry Rich, Esq. M.P.
Capt. H. G. Hamilton, R.N.	John Shepherd, Esq.
Joseph Hoare, Esq.	Henry Stuart, Esq. M.P.
Felix Ladbroke, Esq.	C. George Thornton, Esq.

All persons insured in this Office, the Premiums on whose Policies fall due at the Michaelmas quarter, are hereby reminded to pay the said Premiums, either at the Offices in Threadneedle-street; Craig's-court, Charing-cross; at No. 65, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square; or to the Agents in the Country, on or before the 14th day of October, 1851, when the fifteen days, allowed by this Office, over and above the time for which they are insured, will expire.

Insurances may be made for more years than one by a single payment, and in such cases there will be a discount allowed on the premium and duty for every year except the first.

RATES OF PREMIUM.

First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
1s. 6d. per cent.	2s. 6d. per cent.	4s. 6d. per cent.

This Office insures Property in Foreign Countries, and the Rates are regulated by the nature of the risks.

Sun Duty—1848, 131,270*l.*; 1849, 180,[illegible]; 1850, [illegible]

PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE, 50, REGENT-STREET; CITY BRANCH: 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS. Established 1806.

Policy Holders' Capital, £1,[illegible]
Annual Income, £150,000. Bonuses Declared, £[illegible]
Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £[illegible]

President.

The Right Honourable EARL GREY.

Directors.

The Rev. James Sherman, *Chairman.*
Henry Blencowe Churchill, Esq. *Deputy-Chairman.*

Henry B. Alexander, Esq.	William Ostler, Esq.
George Dacre, Esq.	Apsley Pellatt, Esq.
William Judd, Esq.	George Round, Esq.
Sir Richard D. King, Bart.	Frederick Squire, Esq.
The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird	William Henry Stone, Esq.
Thomas Maugham, Esq.	Capt. William John Williams.

J. A. Beaumont, Esq. *Managing Director.*

Physician—John Maclean, M.D. F.S.S., 29, Upper Montague-street, Montague-square.

NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED.

Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of Bonuses.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.		Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.
1806	£2500	£79 10 10	Extinguished	£1222 2 0
1811	1000	33 19 2	ditto	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	ditto	114 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£982 12 1	£1882 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3392	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY; established by Act of Parliament in 1834.—8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
*1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
500	13 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	[illegible]
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	[illegible]
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	[illegible]

* EXAMPLE.—At the commencement of the year 1841, a person aged thirty took out a Policy for 1,000*l.*, the annual payment for which is 24*l.* 1s. 8d.; in 1847 he had paid in premiums 168*l.* 11s. 8d.; but the profits being 2¼ per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is 22*l.* 10s. per annum for each 1,000*l.*) he had 157*l.* 10s. added to the Policy, almost as much as the premiums paid.

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director, at the Office, 8, Waterloo-place, London.

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NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY. Capital 550,000l. Duty, 1849, 73,241l. 13s. Farming Stock exempt, 9,732,496l.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Return of Premium, declared by this Office in respect of all Premiums paid from the 29th of September, 1845, to the 29th of September, 1850, is now in the course of payment, and will continue so to Midsummer next, as the respective Insurances fall due. By the Constitution of this Society 3-5ths of the nett profits are periodically returned to the Insured, who are at the same time free from all responsibility on account of its engagements. In this manner the cost of insuring is reduced to the lowest possible amount.

For Prospectuses apply to the Society's Offices, Surrey-street, Norwich; and 6, Crescent, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London.

NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, 48, Gracechurch-street, London, for MUTUAL ASSURANCE on LIVES, ANNUITIES, &c.

Chairman—Samuel Hayhurst Lucas, Esq.
Deputy-Chairman—Charles Lushington, Esq. M.P.

Members whose premiums fall due on the 1st of October are reminded that the same must be paid within thirty days from that date.

From the commencement of the Institution, in 1835, to the 20th of November last, the number of Policies issued was 12,494, producing an annual income of 172,806l. 16s. 9d.; and the amount of the accumulated capital at that day was 623,866l. 14s. 7d.

Among the benefits secured to Members of this Institution is the important one that Policies of Assurance may be made payable to the Widower, Widow, or Children of the Assured, free of Legacy or Probate Duty.

The next quinquennial division of profits will be made up to the 20th November, 1852; and all persons who effect assurances before that time will be entitled to participate in the profits, in proportion to the time the policy has been in existence.

Copies of the last Report, and all other information, may be had on application at the Office.

Sept. 20, 1851. JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

MEDICAL, INVALID, AND GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 25, Pall Mall.

During the ten years this Society has been established, more than *Three Thousand Two Hundred Policies* have been issued,—

Covering Assurances to the extent of *Thirteen Hundred Thousand Pounds*,—

Yielding Annual Premiums amounting to upwards of *Fifty-three Thousand Pounds*.

This Society is the only one possessing Tables for the Assurance of Diseased Lives.

Healthy Lives assured at lower rates than at most other Offices.

A Bonus of 2 per cent. per annum was added to the policies at last Division of Profits.

Agents wanted.

Prospectuses, Forms of Proposals, and every other information, may be obtained of the Secretary at the Chief Office, or on application to any of the Society's Agents in the country.

F. G. P. NEISON, Actuary.
C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 1, Princes-street, Bank, London.
Established August 1, 1837.
Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vict. cap. ix.
COLONEL ROBT. ALEXANDER, Blackheath Park, *Chairman*.

ADVANTAGES OF THIS INSTITUTION.

HALF CREDIT RATES OF PREMIUM.

Persons assured according to these rates are allowed credit for half the amount of the *first seven Annual Premiums*, paying interest thereon at the rate of Five per Cent. per Annum, with the option of paying off the arrears of Premiums at any time, or having the amount deducted from the sum assured when the Policy becomes a claim.

FOR SECURING LOANS AND DEBTS.

A Table adapted especially for the securing of Loans and Debts, by which the fullest security is obtained on very low, but gradually increasing Premiums.

Policies revived, without the exaction of a fine, at any time within twelve months, if health remain unimpaired.

A Board of Directors in attendance daily at 2 o'clock.

Age of the Assured in every case admitted in the Policy.

Medical Attendants remunerated in all cases for their reports.

Extract from the Half Credit Rates of Premium.
Annual Premium required for an Assurance of 100l. for the Whole Term of Life.

Age.	Half Premium for seven years.	Whole Premium after seven years.
20	£1 1 9	£2 3 6
40	1 9 2	2 18 4
50	2 2 6	4 5 0
60	3 6 8	6 13 4

E. R. FOSTER, Resident Director.
ANDREW FRANCIS, Secretary.

ELKINGTON and CO., PATENTEES OF THE ELECTRO PLATE, MANUFACTURING SILVERSMITHS, BRONZISTS, &c. Beg respectfully to call attention to their Establishments,
22, REGENT-STREET, }
45, MOORGATE-STREET, } LONDON;
And Manufactory, NEWHALL-STREET, BIRMINGHAM: At either of which places they have always an extensive stock of their own productions.

The Patentees feel the necessity of informing the public, that articles sold as "Electro-plated by Elkington & Co.'s process," offer no guarantee for *their* manufacture, unless such articles bear their Patent Mark, viz. "E. & Co. under a crown."

Estimates, Drawings, and Prices sent free by post.
Replating and Gilding as usual.

HOUSE FURNISHING and INTERIOR DECORATIVE ESTABLISHMENT, 451, OXFORD-STREET, LONDON.—Cabinet Furniture of every description at marked prices—Brussels Carpet, 2s. 6d. per yard—Damask Curtains, 10d. per yard and upwards; Ditto, in Silk and Worsted (French fabric), nearly two yards wide, at 8s. per yard—The best Floor Cloths that can be made, cut to any dimensions, 2s. 3d. per yard. The largest Manufactory in London for Paper Hangings, English and French Decorations, adapted either to the Cottage or the Mansion, fitted up, showing the side of a room furnished.

THOMAS BOULTON'S NEEDLES.—These Needles have been celebrated for the last half century, and are unsurpassed in excellence. They are manufactured of the best spring steel, have highly-finished taper points, and perfectly burnished drilled eyes. Sold in papers, and in every variety of fancy boxes and cases adapted for presents, by Owen, 10, Oxford-street; Milkin, 10, Strand; Looker, 42, Leadenhall-street, City; and by many Drapers.—THOMAS BOULTON, Manufacturer, London, on each paper.

BIELEFELD'S IMPROVED PAPIER MACHÉ is applied extensively for the following purposes:—Architectural Enrichments of every description; Ventilators and Centre Flowers for Ceilings; Brackets and Trusses; Window Cornices; Console Tables; Picture and Glass Frames; Patent Mouldings in 12 feet lengths; &c. &c. A large stock always on hand. A variety of specimens may be seen at Class 26, Central Avenue of the Crystal Palace. By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.—The Works, 15, Wellington-street North, Strand, where Pattern Books may be had.

FASHIONABLE WEDDING CARDS and ENAMEL ENVELOPES, stamped in silver, with flowers, crests and arms; At Home Cards, Invitations, &c.; Engraving of all kinds by the first talent; a Lady and Gentleman's Arms impaled in a highly-finished water-colour drawing, for 21s.; a Ream of best cream-laid Paper, and 500 Envelopes, all stamped with your crest, for 21s., engraved without charge.—H. DOLBY, Heraldic Engraver, Draftsman, and Stationer, 56, Regent-street, Quadrant.

SAFETY for STREET DOORS.—CHUBB'S PATENT LATCHES, with very small and neat keys, are perfectly safe from the attempts of picklocks and false keys. They are very strong, not liable to get out of order, and the price so low as to place them within the reach of all classes. Chubb's Patent Fire-proof Safes and Boxes form a complete preservation for deeds, plate, books, &c. from fire and thieves. C. Chubb & Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; 28, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton.

SILVER TEA SERVICES of New Patterns.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Working Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, opposite the Bank, have recently finished several new and elegant patterns of TEA and COFFEE SERVICES of novel and elegant design, and of the highest finish. The following have been generally admired:—

The Portland Pattern, tastefully engraved.	£ s. d.	The Louis-Quatorze Pattern, richly chased.	£ s. d.
Strong Silver Tea-pot	£12 16 0	Strong Silver Tea-pot	£13 10 0
Ditto Sugar Basin, gilt	7 4 0	Ditto Sugar Basin, gilt	8 6 6
Ditto Cream Ewer, gilt	5 0 0	Ditto Cream Ewer, gilt	6 18 0
Ditto Coffee Pot	16 16 0	Ditto Coffee Pot	17 17 0
	£42 0 0		£47 10 6

The Guide to the extensive Stock in the show-rooms contains the weights and descriptions of Silver Plate, of London manufacture, with copious information respecting Sheffield or Electro-plated Ware, illustrated with engravings. It may be had gratis, or will be forwarded, post free, on application.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manufacturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank.

NEW SHOW ROOMS FOR BEDSTEADS.—HEAL & SON have erected some extensive Warerooms for the purpose of keeping every description of Bedstead. In Iron their Stock will include every sort manufactured, from the cheap Stump, for servants' use, to the handsomely ornamented tubular-pillared Canopy, as well as Brass Bedsteads of every shape and pattern; and in Wooden Bedsteads their Rooms are sufficiently extensive to allow them to fit up a variety, both in Polished Birch and Mahogany, of Four-post, Canopy and French, and also of Japanned Bedsteads—in fact, to keep in Stock every sort of Bedstead that is made; they have also a general assortment of Furniture Chintzes, Damasks, and Dimities, so as to render their Stock complete for the Furnishing of Bedsteads as well as Bedding, and without attempting to compete with the prices at which the lowest class of Furniture is sold, and which is fit for no useful purpose, their new Stock will be found to be priced on the same principle by which their Bedding Trade has, during the last thirty years, been so successfully extended, and the goods, whether of a plain and simple pattern, or of a handsomer and more expensive character, are of well-seasoned materials, sound workmanship, and warranted.

Heal & Son's List of Bedding, containing full particulars of Weights, Sizes, and Prices of every description of Bedding, sent free by post, on application to their Factory,

196 (opposite the Chapel), Tottenham-court-road, London.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION.—A valuable, newly-invented very small powerful Waistcoat Pocket-glass, the size of a Walnut, to discern minute objects at a distance of from four to five miles, which is found to be invaluable, at the Exhibition, and to SPORTSMEN, GENTLEMEN, and GAMEKEEPERS. Price 1l. 10s. sent free.—TELESCOPES. A new and most important INVENTION in TELESCOPES, possessing such extraordinary powers, that some, 34 inches, with an extra eye-piece, will show distinctly Jupiter's Moons, Saturn's Ring, and the Double Stars. They supersede every other kind, and are of all sizes for the waistcoat pocket, Shooting, Military purposes, &c.—Opera and Race-course Glasses with wonderful powers; a minute object can be clearly seen, from 10 to 12 miles distant.—Invaluable newly-invented preserving Spectacles, Invisible and all kinds of Acoustic Instruments for relief of extreme deafness.—Messrs. S. & B. SOLOMONS, Opticians and Aurists, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, opposite the York Hotel.

METCALFE & CO.'s NEW PATTERN TOOTH BRUSH & PENETRATING HAIR BRUSHES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose, 1s. An improved Clothes Brush, that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian bristles, which do not soften like common hair. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most surprising and successful manner. Genuine Smyrna Sponges.—By means of direct importations, Metcalfe & Co. are enabled to secure to their customers the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at METCALFE, BINGLEY & Co.'s Sole Establishment, 130 B, Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.

Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by some houses.

METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH POWDER, 2s. per box.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA, an excellent Remedy for Acidities, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion; as a Mild Aperient it is admirably adapted for Females and Children.—DINNEFORD & CO., Dispensing Chemists, 172, New Bond-street, (General Agents for the Improved Horse Hair Gloves and Belts.)

A CLEAR COMPLEXION.

GODFREY'S EXTRACT OF ELDER FLOWERS, is strongly recommended for Softening, Improving, Beautifying, and Preserving the SKIN, and in giving it a blooming and charming appearance, being at once a most fragrant perfume and delightful cosmetic. It will completely remove Tan, Sun-burn, Redness, &c., and by its balsamic and healing qualities, render the skin soft, pliable, and free from dryness, scurf, &c., clear it from every humour, pimple, or eruption; and, by continuing its use only for a short time, the skin will become and continue soft and smooth, and the complexion perfectly clear and beautiful.—Sold in bottles, price 2s. 9d.; with directions for using it, by all Medicine Venders and Perfumers.

SELF-SEALING ENVELOPES, 6*d.* per 100; Cream-laid Note Paper, 5 quires for 9d.; Large size ditto, 5 quires for 1s.; Plain Envelopes to match, 9d. per 100. Best Sealing Wax, 14 sticks for 1s. Card Plate engraved for 2s. 6d.; 100 best Cards printed for 2s. 6d. A choice Collection of Dressing Cases, Writing and Travelling Cases, Work Boxes, Envelope Boxes, Blotting Books, Inkstands, Cutlery, &c., at WILLIAM LOCKWOOD'S, 75, New Bond-street, near Oxford-street. Remittances for 30s. sent carriage free.

*** The finest Eau de Cologne imported at 2s. per bottle, or 11s. per case of six bottles.

FOOD for INFANTS, INVALIDS, and LADIES NURSING, and as a Luxury for persons in health.—BULLOCK'S SEMOLA is recommended by the most eminent of the Profession in Great Britain as superior to every other article of diet for the above purposes, being more nutritious and highly agreeable. For weakly children and delicate stomachs it is most beneficial.—Sold in Packets at 1s. 6d. and 7s. 6d. each, at all Chemists and Grocers.—SEMOLA BISCUITS are prepared by Huntley & Palmer; SEMOLA CHOCOLATE by Fry & Sons.

INDIGESTION, CONSTIPATION, &c.—DU BARRY'S HEALTH-RESTORING FOOD for INVALIDS and INFANTS.

THE REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD,

the only natural, pleasant, and effectual remedy (without medicine, purging, inconvenience, or expense, as it saves 50 times its cost in other remedies) for nervous, stomachic, intestinal, liver and bilious complaints, however deeply rooted, dyspepsia (indigestion), habitual constipation, diarrhœa, acidity, heartburn, flatulency, oppression, distension, palpitation, eruption of the skin, rheumatism, gout, dropsy, sickness at the stomach during pregnancy, at sea, and under all other circumstances, debility in the aged as well as infants, fits, spasms, cramps, paralysis, &c.

A few out of 50,000 cures:—

Cure, No. 71, of dyspepsia: from the Right Hon. the Lord Stuart de Decies:—"I have derived considerable benefit from your Revalenta Arabica Food, and consider it due to yourselves and the public to authorise the publication of these lines.—Stuart de Decies."

Cure, No. 49,832:—"Fifty years' indescribable agony from dyspepsia, nervousness, asthma, cough, constipation, flatulency, spasms, sickness at the stomach, and vomitings have been removed by Du Barry's excellent food.—Maria Jolly Wortham, Ling, near Diss, Norfolk."

Cure, No. 180:—"Twenty-five years' nervousness, constipation, indigestion, and debility, from which I had suffered great misery, and which no medicine could remove or relieve, have been effectually cured by Du Barry's Food in a very short time.—W. R. Reeves, Pool Anthony, Tiverton."

Cure, No. 4,208:—"Eight years' dyspepsia, nervousness, debility, with cramps, spasms, and nausea, for which my servant had consulted the advice of many, have been effectually removed by Du Barry's delicious food in a very short time. I shall be happy to answer any inquiries.—Rev. John W. Flavell, Ridlington Rectory, Norfolk."

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Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

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October 14, 1851.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1851.

REVIEWS

A History of Classical Literature. By R. W. Browne, M.A. Vols. I. and II. Bentley.

"Literary history," says Col. Mure in his elaborate work on the language and literature of ancient Greece, "may, in truth, be ranked not only among the last, but the least cultivated branches of composition, both in ancient and modern times." It is beyond our present purpose to inquire how far this remark is correct in its generality; but of its truth in reference to the history of Greek literature as pursued by English authors there can be no doubt. We do not mean to say that it would be impossible to find in our language much material suitable for forming part of such a history. From some of our encyclopædias and dictionaries—especially Dr. Smith's 'Biographical Dictionary'—a good deal of information relating to the literary productions of ancient Greece and their authors may be culled by the diligent student; and in our best histories of Greece—such as those of Thirlwall and Grote—many particulars respecting the life and works of the most celebrated Greek writers are here and there given. Still, we have no complete history of Greek literature,—no single work comprising all that is known on this interesting subject,—nothing in any way resembling Hallam's 'History of the Literature of the Middle Ages' or Dunlop's history of Roman literature. The materials for such a work are widely dispersed among a great variety of publications,—nowhere combined into one whole, or arranged together in such a manner as to throw light on each other and exhibit the gradual advance of the Grecian mind. This systematic development is not furnished even by the best of our dictionaries or encyclopædias,—as the several articles are not merely unconnected, but often written by different hands.

The first approach to a history of Greek literature in our language was the translation of Müller's invaluable work, composed for the Society of Useful Knowledge. But though every way worthy of that prince of German scholars as far as it goes, it is after all only a fragment of what he originally contemplated. Last year a further advance was made by Col. Mure in the work which we have quoted above. His three volumes on what he terms the mythical and poetical periods—the latter of which terminates about B.C. 560—leave nothing to be desired. Still, they form but a small—and that by no means the most interesting—part of the subject as conceived by him. They contain no account of the noblest portion of Grecian literature,—no remarks on the bright constellation of dramatists, orators, historians, and philosophers who shed a lustre over his third or Attic period. If we could reasonably expect that this and the remaining three periods would be treated with as much ability as the first two, we might calculate on being able to boast of a thoroughly complete history of ancient Greek literature. But Col. Mure himself does not venture to anticipate the possibility of his carrying on the work to its close,—and not many men would be competent to finish worthily what has been begun in so masterly a style.

It is doing no injustice to Mr. Browne to say, that his present production does not fully supply the want. In the first place, it treats only of the history of *classical* Greek literature,—and accordingly gives no account of any author later than Aristotle. Even within these limits it is widely different from the histories of Müller and of Mure. These are thoroughly original works, containing the results of a laborious investigation of primary authorities, increasing our stock of knowledge and communicating new views of what was previously known. Mr. Browne, on the contrary,—both from his position as Professor of classical literature in King's College and from the natural constitution of his mind—is rather a teacher than an investigator,—an expounder of the views of others than the originator of any new opinions of his own. He modestly tells us, that his object in preparing the present work was "to collect within a moderate compass such facts and observations as might be interesting to the general reader, but which are now scattered over a wide surface, and cannot be brought together without pains and trouble." What he has for a number of years been doing for his college classes he now does for the public in general. The remarks which he has been accustomed to make in the lecture-room are here presented to popular readers in a connected form, with such additions as were necessary to give unity and completeness to the whole. Viewed simply as a compilation, his present publication has great merit. His selection of materials is judiciously adapted to the purpose of conveying within a moderate compass some definite idea of the leading characteristics of the great classical authors and their works. Occasionally we have been disposed to think that something more had been said. The sketches of some celebrated men have struck us as meagre,—we had almost said superficial. But if not elaborate or profound, they are perspicuous, elegant and interesting. Mr. Browne has the happy art of conveying information in a most agreeable manner. It is impossible to miss his meaning, or be insensible to the charms of his polished style. The faults to which he is prone are, excessive diffuseness and repetition. His observations are not merely destitute of originality, but sometimes border upon commonplace. By way of illustrating both his excellencies and his imperfections, we will give an extract from what he says of Aristotle.—

"It is impossible to form a correct estimate either of his literary style or his philosophical method, without contrasting them with those of Plato. Plato was endowed with a highly-poetical imagination; his great object was knowledge; his delight was speculation. Absorbed in the contemplation of the ideal, he forgot that world in which he lived and moved. His fervid genius imparted a warmth and earnestness to his teaching, almost resembling inspiration. Philosophy was with Plato that which his name implies, a love, or passion, for wisdom. If his arguments were fanciful and inconclusive, they still entranced and carried away the learner, and demanded from him a faith which, although he could not prove, he could not refuse. His unrestrained fancy eschewed the form of a regular lecture or treatise, and poured forth its thoughts in the simple and unsystematic form of conversational dialogue. His style is the purest and sweetest Attic, and his illustrative imagery nothing less than poetical. Lastly, Plato, though he could speculate, could not criticize. He was a consummate artist, but not a critic. He could feel beauty, whether scientific, moral, or artistic, even though he could not explain its nature, or analyze it with precision its principles. Aristotle, on the other hand, had neither poetry, nor imagination, nor fancy in his composition, but then his calm inquiring spirit never indulged in extravagant speculation. He was eminently a practical man; his great object, as he himself says, was not knowledge (γνῶσις), but practice (πρᾶξις). He could not form a conception of the ideal, he could not look inwards as deeply as Plato could, and contemplate the energy of the soul, with the same shrewdness with which he analyzed the motives of human moral action, and the phenomena of the natural world. His teaching was argumentative and convincing, his reasoning close, but he never sought to recommend his views, either by the embellishments of poetry, or by rhetorical or exciting appeals to the heart and affections, hence he is cold and unimpressive, but intellectually convincing. He had not that sense of dramatic art, which would have enabled him to support the life and spirit of a dialogue; but this defect is more than compensated for by the systematic order which distinguishes his treatises. To arrange the contents of a dialogue of Plato in a tabular form would be impossible, but every treatise of Aristotle, almost every chapter, is capable of being exhibited to the student in that shape; in fact, it scarcely admits of a doubt, that they took that systematic form in his mind, before they were made public in treatises or lectures. He appears always to have taken a comprehensive view of his subject, to have arranged it mentally in such a shape, that he could see both the beginning and the end. Each subject was in that form which he himself would have termed εὐσύνοπτον. His style is often pure, always unaffected, rejecting all the accessories of grace and ornament; and though sometimes deficient in clearness, this defect does not appear to arise from mistiness of conception. The extreme brevity and abruptness so frequently discernible, gives one the idea of notes and abstracts intended to be expanded when orally delivered, and to be fully developed by means of copious and apposite illustrations. Aristotle could investigate and understand the principles of artistic beauty and taste, although he neither felt them as an inspiration, nor was possessed by them, nor practised them. He was a critic, but not an artist. There can be little doubt that this is to be attributed to the peculiarity of his mental constitution. Plato had genius, Aristotle learning. Ritter considers that this was the tendency of the age in which he lived, an age in which the Greek mind was beginning to decay, for, in its youth, it loved art more than learning. 'He was,' says Ritter, 'the first philosopher of whom it can be said that learning had taken the place of art, and contributed much to establish the pre-eminence of mere learning, with which the later Greek writers were impressed.' Struck, as one cannot help being, with his unequalled learning, it is impossible not to miss, when reading his works, that exquisite grace which distinguishes the language of Plato. Dodwell, speaking of which Aristotle lived is, in some sort, the cause of this inferiority; for Attic Greek prose, which, in its infancy, had been fostered by philosophic thought, and had gradually expanded to meet its requirements, had, in the age of Plato, reached its perfection. It then began to decline. When Plato flourished, the polite language of Athens was still that which adorned the comedies of Aristophanes, on which of which he is said to have formed his style. There was, too, an analogy between the Platonic unrestrained freedom of speculation, and the political liberty of Athens, which still survived its hard and numerous struggles. In the time of Aristotle, Attic Greek had degenerated; the comedies of Aristophanes had ceased to charm. The vigorous eloquence of Demosthenes, who, whilst by patient study he had made his own all the excellencies of the Thucydidean style, had eschewed its faults and errors, was heard only on two occasions after Aristotle had established his school in the Lyceum; the poetical rhetoric of Isocrates, which had formed the taste of so many distinguished orators and writers, had ceased altogether. The great writers whom we now admire had become subjects for critical study. There were none to vie with them, none even to imitate them. Aristotle could do no more than, as in his 'Rhetoric' and 'Poetics,' analyze the principles of taste and beauty, which abounded in their works."

We are scarcely prepared to acquiesce in Mr. Browne's method of explaining Aristotle's inferiority by attributing it to the age in which he lived. The same idea occurs elsewhere,—and, as appears to us, is carried too far. It seems hardly correct to say that Plato by his philosophical genius raised Attic Greek prose to its highest pitch of perfection, and that then Aristotle was dragged down by its decline. We can see no reason why language, the instrument of thought, must inevitably decline as soon as it has reached a high state of cultivation,—still less why great thinkers should share in its fall.

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Supposing Aristotle equal to Plato in point of intellectual endowments, his literary productions ought to be superior, since he had the advantage of all the improvements which Plato had made in the expression of ideas. But if Mr. Browne's description of the two philosophers be a just one, the difference between their writings is sufficiently explained without referring it to any decline of Attic Greek prose. Such a decline must have been the effect rather than the cause of a corresponding falling off in the style of thinking.

The following general remark on the truthfulness of Greek writers may with propriety be here reproduced. It is to be observed, that the author in vindicating the descriptive accuracy of the poets is careful to remind the reader of two considerations which ought not to be overlooked. The first is, that many changes have taken place in Greece since they beheld it,—partly owing to social and political revolutions, and partly to the effects of time. The other is thus stated.—

"Secondly, that as descriptions of scenery were introduced by the poets for the purposes of embellishment, their patriotic enthusiasm led them to overlook the defects, and see in their brightest colours all the beautiful features which distinguished their native land. Their euphemism, which, in the intercourse of social life, caused them to shrink from speaking of unpleasant subjects in such terms as could give offence to the most refined taste, pervaded the whole of their literature, and thus affected not only the moral but also the descriptive character of their poetry. Generally speaking, the sublime and terrible scenes of nature had far less charms for them than the softer beauties. Rocks, mountains, precipices, awoke a series of painful images, only appropriate to emergencies in which such scenery was absolutely indispensable. The ravines of the inhospitable Caucasus were suitable to the tortures of Prometheus—the bare grey clifts of Mycenæ to the Pelopid tragedies—the savage wildness of Cithæron to the unnatural exposure of Œdipus. The crystal rivulet, the soft and verdant turf, inviting repose—the shades of the broad plane tree—were scenes in which their imagination took far more delight. Picturesque grandeur did not affect the Greek mind with pleasure, as it does the mind of those who inhabit the more northern parts of Europe, and who are accustomed to the sterner and severer beauties of nature, as they are to the rigours of more inhospitable climates. Often does Homer, who would devote a long description to some scene of genial beauty—who paints the sunny coasts of Ionia, the lovely kingdom of the Phæacians, the marvellous gardens of Alcinous, with all the varied tints of luxuriant fancy—pass over, with the mere distinction of an epithet, scenes of rude and gloomy beauty. Perhaps it is for this reason that the Greek poets do not describe extensive general views, what the moderns term landscapes, but that their descriptive poetry deals in details. Greece was, in its general features, wild and mountainous. Its rock-bound coasts, although washed by the waters of the ever-varying sea, indented by many a beautiful creek and bay, and many a cheerful and populous harbour, teeming with activity and life, presented generally an escarped and rugged aspect. But embosomed in the recesses of these wilds were spots of excessive beauty, green oases, as it were, in the desert, which promised that personal and sensuous enjoyment which in so many instances appears connected with Greek ideas of beauty. Greek landscape, therefore, was necessarily of a severe character,—a more northern taste would have appreciated it, but it would not appeal to the sensibilities of an Ionian. The poet, therefore, who was the guide of national taste, as being the more perfect representative of the national mind, would not think it inconsistent with faithfulness to pass this part over, and to devote his talents to those especial features which were calculated to call forth the sympathies of his hearers. To paint the loveliness, and pass over the rudeness of nature, might have been disingenuous in a geographer, who professed as his sole object to describe impartially the faults as well as the beauties of a country, but a poet was perfectly justified in selecting beauty, and passing over what he considered deformity, just as the kindred art of the sculptor endeavours to represent not the average of human nature, but the perfection of ideal beauty. This tendency of the Greek poets to seize on whatever they considered as the beautiful is also exemplified in the large proportionate space which the sea occupies in their works, the delight with which they dwell upon all ideas connected with it. The chief beauty of Greece is its sea. Almost encircled and girdled by it as an island, Attica, as its ancient name implies, is all shore. From every high ground, from the principal parts of Athens itself, the sea is visible; nor could any one look to seaward and not observe that bright and transparent atmosphere by which the climate is characterized. And not only by its natural beauties, but by the benefits which it conferred upon Greece, the sea appealed to the national sympathies. The inhabitants of the Ionian colonies of Asia Minor could not but remember that when his ancestors sailed across it from the west they brought with them those liberties and institutions which rendered him immeasurably superior to his Oriental neighbours, and constituted the difference between Greek and Barbarian. He felt every day that the same waves wafted to him the wealth and civilization which were the means of maintaining that superiority. Although the scene of the 'Iliad' is laid on shore, the passages in it which refer to the sea are numerous, and the adventures narrated in the 'Odyssey' are almost exclusively maritime. If we carry our thoughts onwards to later times; to the glorious naval engagements between Greece and Persia; to the time when Themistocles, fortified by the voice of the oracle, bade Greece look for protection to her wooden walls; and, lastly, to the supremacy essentially naval which Athens maintained in the Peloponnesian war, we find that the sea was the source of national greatness, and must have reminded the Greek patriot, whenever he looked upon it, of the high destinies of his race. The love with which the Greek regarded the sea, the gratitude which he felt towards it as the source of his national greatness and prosperity, is represented by the numerous maritime descriptions and metaphors and illustrations which are used as ornaments in Greek poetry universally, and are especially to be remarked in the writings of the tragic poets. Although, therefore, the views of the Greek poets in the descriptions which they gave of their country were perhaps one-sided, they were not for that reason untrue. Their inaccuracy is due to the omissions of those who thought themselves at liberty to select such features as were best fitted to embellish and adorn the picture which they were representing. But whenever fidelity and accuracy are to be expected, whenever truth is necessary to the consistency of the narrative, and geographical position and physical description would illustrate the story, the ancient Greek poets do not fail. So accurate, for example, is Homer in this respect, that the internal evidence furnished by his geographical descriptions goes far, as has already been shown, to determine the country of which he was a native. Ample testimony has been borne to the fidelity of Homer's descriptions by geographers both of ancient and modern times. Strabo constantly appeals to his authority. Wood, in his 'Essay on the Genius of Homer,' shows the correspondence between Homer's descriptions, and the results of his own travels, and Colonel Leake finds in the Homeric poems a topographical guide which seldom fails in accuracy."

From these extracts a pretty correct notion of Mr. Browne's manner may be obtained. Suffice it to say, that he has in two very readable volumes presented much that is useful to the classical student and entertaining to the general reader. Besides biographical information in reference to all the classical Greek authors, he has furnished critical remarks on their intellectual peculiarities, and an analysis of their works when they are of sufficient importance to deserve it. In the case of philosophers he has taken the trouble to draw a sketch of their leading doctrines, and to point out the school to which they belonged. Plato and Aristotle receive special attention. The tragedians, also, and historians are carefully described; but the orators—especially Demosthenes—do not occupy so large a space as we might expect.

The Philosopher under the Roof: the Journal of a Happy Man—[*Le Philosophe sous le Toit.*] By Emile Souvestre.—*Confessions of a Workman*—[*Confessions d'un Ouvrier*]. Edited by Emile Souvestre. Paris, Lévy; London, Jeffs.

The attempt to produce a wholesome and instructive popular literature has been more than once noted as one of the many curious facts marking the present days in France. In the midst of a period of alarm, unsettlement, lowering weather, and desire for anchorage, Madame Dudevant has done her best to produce tales of peasant life which should be as warrantable and innocent as if Madame Cottin or Bernardin St. Pierre had indited them. M. de Lamartine, in that most pompous of his "Confidences," the report of his colloquy with Mdlle. Reine Garde, the Provençal sempstress, prefacing his 'Généviève,"—has announced his intention to put forth a series of well-intentioned and unexceptionable books which shall be as interesting as the most shocking romances produced for the delight of the wicked and worldly, by MM. Suë, Sandeau, and Féval. In efforts like these, as we have before pointed out, there is too much of the forcing-house, too much of the ware manufactured on the virtue-pattern, to tempt purchasers satiated with more flaunting and tawdry contrivances. Still, they indicate a necessity and a market; and, in spite of their factitious nature, and of the hectic, rather than healthy, virtue which is their life-breath,—they are not to be despised by the dispassionate observer.—By their side flourishes a class of works by writers smaller in power, though possibly not less sincere in purpose. Among these is, M. Emile Souvestre; who is rarely to be met without that "certain grace and pleasure" which only intercourse with the gentle and the amiable can awaken. If, withal, he be found monotonous when too long consorted with, that is "in the course of nature." Tenderness, affection, and charity are themes which, unless they are informed with a lofty spirituality, or unless a genial humour be intermixed in their treatment, are because of their very evenness and constancy soon exhausted in art. A Goldsmith, a Charles Lamb, a Scott could give us sweetness without mawkishness, self-denial without our being oppressed by a sense of its "Satanic virtue" (to borrow Coleridge's phrase). But they were men of genius,—whereas M. Souvestre is only a man of talent; and even in his own peculiar vein of delicate speculation he has been surpassed by more than one writer of his own time. We need only mention M. Töpffer the Genevese, and Mr. Hawthorne the American.

Of the former author we are closely reminded by 'The Philosopher under the Roof.' The 'Happy Man' (to follow out the title) who publishes his journals is a virtuous, beneficent hermit, who prefers exemption from care, excitement, and responsibility—a life of modest fortunes and little kindlinesses—to a strife in the more bustling arena of enterprise, where the vicissitudes are more exhausting, the prizes more brilliant, and (let it never be forgotten) the means of doing good larger. He scarcely ever goes out into the streets without doing or planning some little philanthropic surprise or witnessing some good little action. Pressed to exchange his clerkship, with its humble salary, for a position of greater risk and promise, he declines; apostrophising Poverty as his guardian-angel, his muse, his incentive, and his reward. Struck down by a fever,—on re-

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covering, he finds that he has been tended more affectionately and sedulously by the humble persons whom he has befriended than by the rich among his kinsfolk. This is pleasing:—and some of the incidents of the year embraced within the compass of his journals are gracefully touched:—let us instance the pleasure-party to Sèvres of the two old maids. But, is it all true? Self-knowledge is admirable,—and the adaptation of powers to efforts is too little considered by many a modern Dædalus.—but is there not in such a paraded picture of self-sacrifice and renunciation something also of that "pride which apes humility"?—We have not closed this imaginary journal without such a question being forced on us.—As exhibiting a series of *tableaux de genre* the work has considerable merit.

The 'Confessions of a Workman,' *edited* by M. Souvestre, is a more acceptable book,—because many degrees nearer to reality. It is merely the story of the rise and progress in life of a mason; telling how he escaped becoming a drunkard,—how he ministered to the old age of his blind widowed mother,—how he got himself schooling and throve thereby. By way of accessory figures, we have the shrewd cordial family friend Maricet, who gives the workman counsel, and is a fair example of the uses and limits of mother-wit as distinct from intellectual training,—and an ambitious architect, in whom is somewhat more faintly shadowed forth the perilous side of a sanguine and speculative disposition. The female figures are simple, modest, and not sentimental,—which in our eyes is a great virtue,—and the whole makes up a book which may be commended to readers of every class and calling. We will not warrant its genuineness, however,—and if it is to be accepted as fictitious, it is somewhat pale and insipid as compared with similar scenes and pictures which the author has painted in his earlier works:—'Les Derniers Bretons,' for instance.

The Bailiff of Silt—[*Der Voigt von Silt*]. By Theodore Mügge. Berlin, Jancke; London, Thimm.

It cannot be too often repeated, for the sake of wholesome literature, that the union of poetry in whatever form with didactic matter of any kind is a forced marriage,—the offspring of which cannot be healthy. It is in vain to bind that of which the essence is freedom—the clothing of universal truth in living types, or, at least, its utterance in permanent symbols—to an office whose direct aim is limited by distinct specialities, whose subject is by its very nature temporary, whose mode of proceeding is analytical and demonstrative. In such a combination of unlike elements, neither part can move easily or spread into natural proportions;—and the fable of Pegasus harnessed to the plough is realized in a sense more exactly true than belongs to the common interpretation of that apologue.

A political romance—and such is this work of Herr Mügge's—may fairly be classed among the hybrids of Fiction,—a genus of which the poetic life is cramped by the stress of a material argument, while its political spirit must expire as soon as the question in hand is solved or even proposed in a new form. When the work thus condemned to the fugitive condition of a pamphlet gives token of qualities worthy of a longer existence, those very merits which enhance its effect for a time can but increase the judicious admirer's regret that the manner of their use should forbid that effect to be lasting.

The Sleswig-Holstein question, from the German point of view, forms the groundwork of Herr Mügge's story,—the hero of which, Jens Lornsen, a native of Siltoe, becomes a martyr to his zeal for the independence of the Duchies: forfeiting the love of a noble Danish mistress, the patronage of her father, a cabinet minister, and the growing favour of the sovereign himself,—rather than betray what he deems the cause of his country. The mode in which the peasant-islander's son falls in the way of love and court-fortune is conceived in the most improbable strain of romance;—but this once allowed for, the progress of his career, its temptations, struggles, and tragical issue, are painted with more than common art and feeling, and awaken a sympathy which rarely flags until the final scene. Around this main strand of the narrative are woven a variety of island scenes and characters, on the Holstein coast, and of royal and courtly figures at Copenhagen:—some of the former of which have probably been drawn on the spot,—while all are more life-like and distinct than is common in performances of this class. The power shown by Herr Mügge in these sketches from the life, still more in conceiving and keeping his personages individual and distinct, makes his novel take a strong hold of the reader, in spite of its constant returns to a prosaic intention; and justifies the belief that he might win more success in the region of true art, where the exercise of his better powers would not be clogged with the burden of an occasional argument.

Silt (Siltoe) is one of the chain of islands that subtends the western coast of Sleswig. The people, a Frisian race, are represented as wholly German in their sympathies; which the hero of the tale is put forward to represent He is the son of a prosperous landowner; who, like most of his kind, has passed his prime at sea, and now lives in a kind of patriarchal homely abundance on his own ground. The son, Jens, although perfect in all native exercises, a bold and dextrous sailor and island Hercules-Apollo, has been sent to Kiel and Jena, from whence he returns as eminent for brilliant studies as for the ardour of his patriotic convictions. At the opening of the tale, in 1825, the young student encounters his future mistress and her father, the cabinet minister, Count Hammersteen, on the rocks at Heligoland,—brought thither one knows not very well why. The weather grows foul, and the Danish travellers want to return. Lornsen, against the warning of his seafaring friends, offers to carry them over in his own sloop; and, after running great danger in a storm, does get them to land at last. The Count, somewhat unaccountably, professes himself grateful to Jens—not for risking, but for having, as he is made to say, saved his life:—the fair daughter, Lina (Caroline), having already visibly lost her heart to the handsome and eloquent seaman. This leads to an invitation to Copenhagen,—whither Lornsen proceeds;—and there, by the minister's and his daughter's favour, he rapidly advances in the German Chancery. Up to this period the claims of the Duchies have merely been speculative and historical; and Lornsen gives no offence to the Court by maintaining what has no direct practical consequence. But the Revolution of 1830 breaks out; the prospect of a demise of the direct line of the monarchy has grown all but certain: and the question of the independence of the Duchies on the Danish crown becomes involved with the excitement for a constitution caused by the French rising. This is the critical moment for Lornsen. He has already risen to a considerable post; and the promises of still higher advancement and of Lina's hand are offered as a bribe to use his influence with the German party in the Duchies to desist from their pretensions. It is proposed to him to take office in the cabinet on this footing. In the same moment he is pressed by his mistress on another side. She is a fervent Dane, but has lent her ear to the liberals. They want the Duchies to make common cause with the Danes to extort a constitution, instead of pursuing separate interests, to the ruin of both. This is the condition that Lina attaches to her hand. Lornsen is steadfast. He goes to the King, and frankly declares his adhesion to the German rights of Sleswig-Holstein,—which closes the cabinet to him: although the old King, admiring his honest courage, offers still to employ him in the Duchies. From the palace he hastens to his last interview with Lina; whose possession he will not purchase on the terms which she demands. From the old Macchiavellian father—a very well-drawn character—he parts with civil words, in total estrangement:—only asking him to say to the King, that for the promised post he will accept the humble office of Bailiff of Silt.

Thither he returns, to seek composure in meaner duties, and among his homely kinsfolk and friends,—among whom he now sees as a buxom matron the object of a youthful love, generously ceded to a more enamoured friend, after saving his life in a romantic coast adventure. But Lornsen cannot be at rest in this narrow sphere. He corresponds with German malcontents on the main land;—is denounced—tried—and condemned, as guilty of dangerous practices, to a year's imprisonment:—all his democratic friends shrinking from the victim as soon as the hand of power has seized upon him. Meanwhile, his mistress, in pique or despair, has married a courtier little worthy to have been Lornsen's rival. When liberated from prison,—broken in health and still more so in spirit, he embarks for the New World; having lost all hope of success in the cause for which he had sacrificed all that was most dear to himself.—Some years afterwards, returning from the West, he lands in a dying state at Marseilles. There he again meets with his repentant mistress; and dies in her arms,—bequeathing to her piety a treatise on the rights of the Duchies—the ruling passion still strong in death.

From this outline it will be seen that there is material enough in the tale for animated situations and moving interviews:—which, indeed, are by no means wanting. Some of the scenes at court are vigorously drawn. The sketches of the smiling, hollow, yet not bad-hearted, Count Hammersteen, and of the rough life on the Hallig Islands or at Siltoe, are more than commonly clever. Lina, the frank, ambitious, imperious beauty—yet with more Danish pride than love in her wayward heart—is less natural, we may hope,—she is certainly less engaging. Lornsen himself, after allowing for some romantic embellishments of a commonplace kind, is really a fine, stalwart, amiable figure, in spite of his prosings on the Sleswig-Holstein compact;—which he begins within a few minutes of his first meeting with the illustrious stranger on the rock at Heligoland, and continues with little intermission throughout his career. There is, however, in all a strain of generous devotion and self-sacrifice which commands warm sympathy in the critical moments, and even keeps his political zeal from becoming altogether tedious to ingenuous natures.—The later scenes, as well as the love passages, are not without a certain manly pathos; and few readers of the gentler sort will close the book without tears.

We must add to this, as a merit in the author, that his political theme has not so far overcome his artistic instinct as to silence the wish to touch both sides with something like an equal hand. He has evidently aimed at depicting men, while other political moralists are too apt to make monsters of those who

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belong to the party which they seek to discredit. Somo of the casual remarks on German public feeling and ambition bespeak a candid, though rather severe, intelligence. Altogether, we may say that, having taken up the book with the despondency that political novels are apt to cast on the critical mind, the feeling became lighter as the story went on, and that our parting with the author was more cordial than the first meeting. While this does not affect our clear persuasion that his work is of a questionable species,—it may justly induce a wish to see him employed hereafter in some moro genial kind of composition.

The Life of John Sterling. By Thomas Carlyle. Chapman & Hall.

There is a fortuno in the award of biographical honours. Some of our worthiest heroes and sages —men whose acts and thoughts have exercised a wholesome and commanding influence over the course of events and tho march of mind—though long removed "from this visible diurnal sphere," remain as yet without this particular sort of celebration; while, on the other hand, literary and personal friendship has in the instance before us engaged tho pens of two eminent writers in the portraiture of a recently deceased dreamer of dreams and inditer of failures! Neither as a writer nor as a thinker can the late Mr. Sterling be held to have taken rank. Nearly all his books, whether deservedly or not, fell dead from the press. He tried his hand at almost every form of composition with the samo want of result. In verse and in prose—in letters, lyrics, dramas, criticism, essays, novels, sermons, Hudibrastic comicalities — he failed, though not equally, in all. His inward life seems to have resembled his outward endeavours. Radical, Theosophist, High Churchman, Rationalist, Sceptic, and "Carlylian" by turns,—he veered with almost every wind and obeyed almost every influence brought to bear on him from without. Under no point of view can his character be considered as an original one, nor was his position and career in the world more remarkable than those of other men. We are told that his powers of conversation were brilliant, meteoric, wonderful; but of these no specimens are preserved, and hopes of celebrity which must in the nature of things he based on a mere report are slight at best. Why these two elaborate lives,—why, indeed, any life at all of such a man? Mr. Carlyle tells us in the preface that he would have been content—pleased, indeed—had "tho privilege of all the weary," rest and oblivion, been the lot of his friend. "Why," he asks, as if in anger, "had a Biography been Inflicted on this man?" He could have consented that the deceased should be "forgotton,"—but he will not stand by in silence and see him "misrepresented" as he is said to be hy Archdeacon Hare.

Into the quarrel, as between the two biographers, we do not propose to enter,—further than is necessary to enablo our readers to understand Mr. Carlylo's reasons for writing. A little before his death, Mr. Sterling, it appears, "committed the care of his literary character and printed writings" to the two friends who have now made themselves severally his biographers.—"After some consultation on it," says Mr. Carlyle, "and survey of the difficulties and delicate considerations involved in it, Archdeacon Hare and I agreed that the wholo task of selecting what writings were to be reprinted, and of drawing up a biography to introduce them, should be left to him alone, and done without interference of mine." With the work which he had thus consigned to other hands, Mr. Carlylo was, on its appearance in print, greatly dissatisfied. Sterling, it was known, had passed from orthodoxy into something elso at one period of his life,—and the churchman, apt from his modes of thought to attach paramount importance to this change of opinion, sought so much to explain and excuse the circumstance that in his narrative it seemed as if the religious lapse had been the grand fact in his hero's career. Thus the case came into the spiritual courts of literature, and gave rise, as some of our readers will remember, to angry discussions in the orthodox journals. Against all this Mr. Carlylo thinks it desirable to make a formal protest:—which he does in his own characteristic, and not very rational, way. "The noble Sterling," he cries out, "a radiant child of the empyrean, clad in bright auroral hues in tho memory of all that knew him,—what is he doing here in inquisitorial *sanbenito*, with nothing but ghastly spectralities prowling round him, and inarticulately screeching and gibbering what they call their judgment on him!"

The whole of this misconception and outcry Mr. Carlyle accordingly lays to the charge of Archdeacon Hare:—whose work, which in his own person he professes to find "everywhere bearing testimony to the friendliness, the piety, the perspicacity, and other gifts and virtues of that eminent and amiable man," he thus, after another not very rational fashion of his own, criticizes under tho thin disguise of a "correspondent."—

"Tho sin of Hare's book is easily defined, and not very condemnable, but it is nevertheless ruinous to his task as biographer. Ho takes up Sterling as a clergyman merely. Sterling, I find, was a curate for exactly eight mooths; during eight months and no more had he any special relation to the Church. But he was a man, and had relation to the Universe, for eight and thirty years: and it is in this latter character, to which all the others were but features and transitory hues, that we wish to know him. His battle with hereditary Church-formulas was severe; but it was by no means his one battle with things inherited, nor indeed his chief battle; neither, according to my observation of what it was, is it successfully delineated or summed up in this book. The truth is, nobody that had known Sterling would recognise a feature of him here; you would never dream that this book treated of *him* at all. A palo sickly shadow in torn surplice is presented to us here; weltering bewildered amid heaps of what you call 'Hebrew Old-clothes;' wrestling, with impotent impetuosity, to free itself from the baleful imbroglio, as if that had been its one function in lifo: who in this miserable figure would recognize the brilliaot, beautiful and cheerful John Sterling, with his ever-flowing wealth of ideas, fancies, imaginations; with his frank affections, inexhaustible hopes, audacities, activities, and general radiant vivacity of heart and intelligence, which made the presence of him an illomination and inspiration wherever ho went? It is too bad. Let a man be honestly forgotten when his life ends; but let him not be misremembered in this way. To be hung op as an ecclesiastical scarecrow, as a target for heterodox and orthodox to practise archery upon, is no fate that can be due to the memory of Sterling. It was not as a ghastly phantasm, choked in Thirty-nine-article controversies, or miserable Semitic, Anti-Semitic street-riots,—in scepticisms, agonised self-seekings,—that this man appeared in life; nor as such, if tho world still wishes to look at him, should you suffer the world's memory of him now to be. Once for all, it is unjust; emphatically untrue as an image of John Sterling: perhaps to few men that lived aloog with him could such an interpretation of their existence be more inapplicable."

With this conviction on his mind Mr. Carlyle resolved to write a new life. We do not persuade ourselves that the reading public will care very much about the opinions of the deceased; and probably nine out of every ten readers of this book will turn it over in the expectation of meeting Mr. Carlyle rather than Mr. Sterling in its pages. To the admirers of this writer—be they few or many—the work will have at least the attraction of novelty. Mr. Carlyle's last formal subject was Cromwell,—at least a great figure in history, and a man moreover endowed with that adamantine will and that unity of purpose which the Oracle of Chelsea has long taught his disciples to believe in as the distinctive signs of the hero. The difference between Oliver Cromwell and John Sterling is indeed vast; and the believer may well wonder what sympathy the worshipper of Francia can have with the irresolute, purposeless and unsuccessful verse-and-prose writer lately gone from amongst us. Tha work itself will perhaps explain the riddle.

Failing in all his higher intellectual efforts, Sterling seldom failed to attach to his person the friends with whom he became intimate. Mr. Carlyle evidently writes of him out of the depths of an old affection; and with his heart in the task, he forgets no little of his peculiar theories and lays aside much of the cumbrous oddity of his ordinary style. Since the 'Life of Schillar,' which this performance often calls to mind, we remember nothing from the author's pen so free from rant, eccentricity, and extravagance. His earnestness makes his manner at times simple, beautiful and pathetic. Not unfrequently he escapes into his accustomed vices of expression,—as may be seen in the few sentences already quoted;—but, on the whole, as compared with 'Latter-Day Pamphlets,' this work is a model of vigour and simplicity. Here we have no "apes of the Dead Sea," no "phantasm captains," few "shams," "cants," or "flunkeydoms." Our old opinion that Mr. Carlyle's turgid style was the growth of an affectation, is confirmed by the very simplicity of his new volume. When the heart speaks, it does not fail to speak intelligibly.

Take the following example—for we intend to be miscellaneous in our extracts, looking, as the reader will, rather to the author than to the nominal hero,—as a description of a Welsh valley.—

"Llanblethian hangs pleasantly, with its white cottages, and orchard and other trees, on the western slope of a green hill; looking far and wide over green meadows and little or bigger hills, in the pleasant plain of Glamorgan; a short mile to the south of Cowbridge, to which smart little town it is properly a kind of suburb. Plain of Glamorgan, some ten miles wide and thirty or forty long, which they call the Vale of Glamorgan;—though properly it is not quite a Vale, there being only one range of mountains to it, if even one: certainly the central Mountains of Wales do gradually rise, in a miscellaneous manner, on the north sido of it; but on the south are no mountains, not even land, only the Bristol Channel, and far off, the Hills of Devonshire, for boundary,—the 'English Hills,' as the natives call them, visible from every eminence io those parts. On such wide terms is it called Vale of Glamorgan. But called by whatever name, it is a most pleasant fruitful region; kind to the native, interesting to the visitor. A waving grassy region; cut with innumerable ragged lanes; dotted with sleepy unswept human hamlets, old ruinous castles with their ivy and their daws, grey sleepy churches with their ditto ditto: for ivy everywhere abounds; and generally a rank fragrant vegetation clothes all things; hanging, in rude many-coloured festoons and fringed odoriferous tapestries, on your right and on your left, in every lane. A country kinder to the sluggard husbandman than any I have ever seen. For it lies all on limestone, needs no draining; the soil, everywhere of handsome depth and finest quality, will grow good crops for you with the most imperfect tilling. At a safe distance of a day's riding lie the tartarean copperforges of Swansea, the tartarean ironforges of Merthyr; their sooty battle far away, and not, at such safe distance, a defilement to the face of the earth aod sky, but rather an encouragement to the earth at least; encouraging the husbandmao to plough better, if he only would. The

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peasantry seem indolent and stagnant, but peaceable and well-provided; much given to Methodism when they have any character;—for the rest an innocent good-humoured people, who all drink home-brewed beer, and have brown loaves of the most excellent homebaked bread. The native peasant village is not generally beautiful, though it might be, were it swept and trimmed; it gives one rather the idea of sluttish stagnancy,—an interesting peep into the Welsh Paradise of Sleepy Hollow. Stones, old kettles, naves of wheels, all kinds of broken litter, with live pigs and etceteras, lie about the street: for as a rule no rubbish is removed, but waits patiently the action of mere natural chemistry and accident; if even a house is burnt or falls, you will find it there after half a century, only cloaked by the ever-ready ivy. Sluggish man seems never to have struck a pick into it; his new hut is built close by on ground not encumbered, and the old stones are still left lying."

Edward Sterling, father of the hero, and for many years the unknown, or at least anonymous, "thunderer" of the *Times*—was in many respects a more remarkable person than his son:—and our readers may be glad to have a glance of him as Mr. Carlyle presents him in his latter and more prosperous days.—

"During all these years of struggle and wayfaring, his Father's household at Knightsbridge had stood healthful, happy, increasing in wealth, free diligence, solidity and honest prosperity; a fixed sunny islet, towards which, in all his voyagings and overclouded roamings, he could look with satisfaction, as to an ever-open port of refuge. The elder Sterling, after many battles, had reached his field of conquest in these years; and was to be regarded as a victorious man. Wealth sufficient, increasing not diminishing, had rewarded his labours in the *Times*, which were now in their full flower; he had influence of a sort; went busily among busy public men; and enjoyed, in the questionable form attached to journalism and anonymity, a social consideration and position which were abundantly gratifying to him. A singular figure of the epoch; and when you came to know him, which it was easy to fail of doing if you had not eyes and candid insight, a gallant, truly gifted, and manful figure, of his kind. We saw much of him in this house; much of all his family; and had grown to love them all right well,—him too, though that was the difficult part of the feat. For in his Irish way he played the conjuror very much,—'three hundred and sixty-five opinions in the year upon every subject,' as a wag once said. In fact his talk, ever ingenious, emphatic and spirited in detail, was much defective in earnestness, at least in clear earnestness, of purport and outcome; but went tumbling as if in mere welters of explosive unreason; a volcano heaving under vague deluges of scoriæ, ashes and imponderous pumice-stones, you could not say in what direction, nor well whether in any. Not till after good study did you see the deep molten lava-flood, which simmered steadily enough, and showed very well by and by whither *it* was bound. For I must say of Edward Sterling, after all his daily explosive sophistries, and fallacies of talk, he had a stubborn instinctive sense of what was manful, strong and worthy; recognized, with quick feeling, the charlatan under his solemnest wig; knew as clearly as any man a pusillanimous tailor in buckram, an ass under the lion's skin, and did with his whole heart despise the same. The sudden changes of doctrine in the *Times*, which failed not to excite loud censure and indignant amazement in those days, were first intelligible to you when you came to interpret them as his changes. These sudden whirls from east to west on his part, and total changes of party and articulate opinion at a day's warning, lay in the nature of the man, and could not be helped; products of his fiery impatience, of the combined impetuosity and limitation of an intellect, which did nevertheless continually gravitate towards what was loyal, true and right on all manner of subjects. * * An amazingly impetuous, hasty, explosive man, this 'Captain Whirlwind,' as I used to call him! Great sensibility lay in him, too; a real sympathy, and affectionate pity and softness, which he had an over-tendency to express even by tears,—a singular sight in so leonine a man. Enemies called them maudlin and hypocritical, these tears; but that was nowise the complete account of them. On the whole, there did conspicuously lie a dash of ostentation, a self-consciousness apt to become loud and braggart, over all he said and did and felt: this was the alloy of the man, and you had to be thankful for the abundant gold along with it. Quizzing enough he got among us for all this, and for the singular *chiaroscuro* manner of procedure, like that of an Archimagus Cagliostro, or Kaiser Joseph Incognito, which his anonymous known-unknown thunderings in the *Times* necessitated in him; and much we laughed,—not without explosive counter-banterings on his part;—but in fine one could not do without him; one knew him at heart for a right brave man. 'By Jove, sir!' thus he would swear to you, with radiant face; sometimes, not often, by a deeper oath. With persons of dignity, especially with women, to whom he was always very gallant, he had courtly delicate manners, verging towards the wiredrawn and elaborate; on common occasions, he bloomed out at once into jolly familiarity of the gracefully boisterous kind, reminding you of mess-rooms and old Dublin days. His off-hand mode of speech was always precise, emphatic, ingenious: his laugh, which was frequent rather than otherwise, had a sincerity of banter, but no real depth of sense for the ludicrous; and soon ended, if it grew too loud, in a mere dissonant scream. He was broad, well-built, stout of stature; had a long lowish head, sharp grey eyes, with large strong aquiline face to match; and walked, or sat, in an erect decisive manner. A remarkable man; and playing, especially in those years 1830-40, a remarkable part in the world."

We will now introduce our readers to another and far more noteworthy personage. Were there no other passages in this book to our mind, it would still be a welcome guest on our library table for the sake of its chapter on Coleridge. The whole of this is picturesque and life-like.—

"Coleridge sat on the brow of Highgate Hill, in those years, looking down on London and its smoke-tumult, like a sage escaped from the inanity of life's battle; attracting towards him the thoughts of innumerable brave souls still engaged there. His express contributions to poetry, philosophy, or any specific province of human literature or enlightenment, had been small and sadly intermittent; but he had, especially among young inquiring men, a higher than literary, a kind of prophetic or magician character. He was thought to hold, he alone in England, the key of German and other Transcendentalisms; knew the sublime secret of believing by 'the reason' what 'the understanding' had been obliged to fling out as incredible; and could still, after Hume and Voltaire had done their best and worst with him, profess himself an orthodox Christian, and say and print to the Church of England, with its singular old rubrics and surplices at Allhallowtide, *Esto perpetua*. A sublime man; who, alone in those dark days, had saved his crown of spiritual manhood; escaping from the black materialisms, and revolutionary deluges, with 'God, Freedom, Immortality' still his: a king of men. The practical intellects of the world did not much heed him, or carelessly reckoned him a metaphysical dreamer: but to the rising spirits of the young generation he had this dusky sublime character; and sat there as a kind of *Magus*, girt in mystery and enigma; his Dodona oak-grove (Mr. Gilman's house at Highgate) whispering strange things, uncertain whether oracles or jargon. The Gilmans did not encourage much company, or excitation of any sort, round their sage; nevertheless, access to him, if a youth did reverently wish it, was not difficult. He would stroll about the pleasant garden with you, sit in the pleasant rooms of the place,—perhaps take you to his own peculiar room, high up, with a rearward view, which was the chief view of all. A really charming outlook, in fine weather. Close at hand, wide sweep of flowery leafy gardens, their few houses mostly hidden, the very chimney-pots veiled under blossomy umbrage, flowed gloriously down hill; gloriously issuing in wide-tufted undulating plain-country, rich in all charms of field and town. Waving blooming country of the brightest green; dotted all over with handsome villas, handsome groves; crossed by roads and human traffic, here inaudible or heard only as a musical hum: and behind all swam, under olive-tinted haze, the illimitable limitary ocean of London, with its domes and steeples definite in the sun, big Paul's and the many memories attached to it hanging high over all. Nowhere, of its kind, could you see a grander prospect on a bright summer day, with the set of the air going southward—southward, and so draping with the city-smoke not you but the city. Here for hours would Coleridge talk, concerning all conceivable or inconceivable things; and liked nothing better than to have an intelligent, or failing that, even a silent and patient human listener. He distinguished himself to all that ever heard him as at least the most surprising talker extant in this world,—and to some small minority, by no means to all, as the most excellent."

His personal appearance is brought before the eye as by the lines of a daguerreotype.—

"Brow and head were round, and of massive weight, but the face was flabby and irresolute. The deep eyes, of a light hazel, were as full of sorrow as of inspiration; confused pain looked mildly from them, as in a kind of mild astonishment. The whole figure and air, good and amiable otherwise, might be called flabby and irresolute; expressive of weakness under possibility of strength. He hung loosely on his limbs, with knees bent, and stooping attitude; in walking, he rather shuffled than decisively stept; and a lady once remarked, he never could fix which side of the garden-walk would suit him best, but continually shifted, in corkscrew fashion, and kept trying both. A heavy-laden, high-aspiring, and surely much-suffering man. His voice, naturally soft and good, had contracted itself into a plaintive snuffle and sing-song; he spoke as if preaching,—you would have said, preaching earnestly and also hopelessly the weightiest things. I still recollect his 'object' and 'subject,' terms of continual recurrence in the Kantean province; and how he sung and snuffled them into 'om-m-mject' and sum-m-mject,' with a kind of solemn shake or quaver, as he rolled along. No talk, in his century or in any other, could be more surprising."

We must add the following descriptive account of Coleridge's conversation:—some few sentences of which might very fairly be applied to not a little of their author's own writings.—

"Nothing could be more copious than his talk; and furthermore, it was always, virtually or literally, of the nature of a monologue; suffering no interruption, however reverent; hastily putting aside all foreign additions, annotations, or most ingenious desires for elucidation, as well-meant superfluities which would never do. Besides, it was talk not flowing anywhither like a river, but spreading everywhither in inextricable currents and regurgitations like a lake or sea; terribly deficient in definite goal or aim, nay often in logical intelligibility; *what* you were to believe or do, on any earthly or heavenly thing, obstinately refusing to appear from it. So that, most times, you felt logically lost; swamped near to drowning in this tide of ingenious vocables, spreading out boundless as if to submerge the world. To sit as a passive bucket and be pumped into, whether you consent or not, can in the long-run be exhilarating to no creature; how eloquent soever the flood of utterance that is descending. But if it be withal a confused unintelligible flood of utterance, threatening to submerge all known landmarks of thought, and drown the world and you!—I have heard Coleridge talk, with eager musical energy, two stricken hours, his face radiant and moist, and communicate no meaning whatsoever to any individual of his hearers,—certain of whom, I for one, still kept eagerly listening in hope; the most had long before given up, and formed (if the room were large enough) secondary humming groups of their own. He began anywhere; you put some question to him, made some suggestive observation; instead of answering this, or decidedly setting out towards answer of it, he would accumulate formidable apparatus, logical swim-bladders, transcendental life-preservers and other precautionary and vehiculatory gear, for setting out; perhaps did at last get under way,—but was swiftly solicited, turned aside by the glance of some radiant new game on this hand or that, into new courses; and ever into new; and before long into all the Universe, where it was uncertain what game you would catch,

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or whether any. His talk, alas, was distinguished, like himself, by irresolution; it dialiked to be troubled with conditions, abstinences, definite fulfilments—loved to wander at its own sweet will, and make its auditor and his claims and humble wishes a mere passive bucket for itself! He had knowledge about many things and topics,—much curious reading; but generally all topics led him, after a pass or two, into the high seas of theosophic philosophy, the hazy infinitude of Kantean transcendentalism, with its 'sum-m-mjects' and 'om-m-mjects.' Sad enough; for with such indolent impatience of the claims and ignorances of others, he had not the latent talent for explaining this or anything unknown to them; and you swam and fluttered in the mistiest wide unintelligible deluge of things, for most part in a rather profitless uncomfortable manner. Glorious islets, too, I have seen rise out of the haze; but they were few, and soon swallowed in the general element again. Balmy sunny islets, islets of the blest and the intelligible;—on which occasions those secondary humming groups would all cease humming, and hang breathless upon the eloquent words; till once your islet got wrapt in the mist again, and they could recommence humming. Eloquent artistically expressive words you always had; piercing radiances of a most subtle insight came at intervals; tones of noble pious sympathy, recognizable as pious though strangely coloured, were never wanting long: but in general you could not call this aimless, cloudcast, cloudbased, awiessly meandering human discourse of reason by the name of 'excellent talk,' but only of 'surprising'; and were reminded bitterly of Hazlitt's account of it: 'Excellent talker, very,—if you let him start from no premises and come to no conclusion.' Coleridge was not without what talkers call wit, and there were touches of prickly sarcasm in him, contemptuous enough of the world and its idols and popular dignitaries; he had traits even of poetic humour: but in general he seemed deficient in laughter; or indeed in sympathy for concrete human things either on the sunny or on the stormy side. One right peal of concrete laughter at some convicted flesh-and-blood absurdity, one burst of noble indignation at some injustice or depravity, rubbing elbows with us on this solid Earth, how strange would it have been in that Kantean haze-world, and how infinitely cheering amid its vacant air-castles and dim-melting ghosts and shadows! None such ever came. His life had been an abstract thinking and dreaming, idealistic, passed amid the ghosts of defunct bodies and of unborn ones. The moaning singsong of that theosophico-metaphysical monotony left on you, at last, a very dreary feeling."

The reader may begin to think that we have forgotten the hero of this biography. We have not done so exactly:—but we suspect, as we have hinted, that little interest will be felt in the meagre personal details which Mr. Carlyle here presents. Mr. Sterling was, we repeat, not a hero—nor a genius. The attempt to invest his memory with a romantic interest fails of its own improbability. In this new portraiture, too, all the merely mortal lineaments are wanting. What plain dweller on the earth could seize the character of a man described only as a "vehement, trenchant, farshining, and yet intrinsically light and volatile, soul"? Or in this wise:—"Rapidity, as of pulsing auroras, as of dancing lightnings, characterized him." These heroics sound ridiculous when applied to the quiet student of books so lately amongst us,—and whose living form and features so many of us remember. In conclusion, we must say that this book, so far as it treats of the late John Sterling, has few claims on the leisure of the reading public:—but so far as it contains Mr. Carlyle's commentary on men and things as they exist around us in the present world of letters—a world so calm compared with that stormy arena in which his voice is usually heard—it has many merits, and will be likely to find an eager and a gratified audience.

The Rhyme Book. By Hercules Ellis. Longman & Co.

AMONG the comedies of the Crystal Palace this 'Rhyme Book' is one of the most remarkable. Next to Mr. Warren's story of a lily and a bee it is perhaps the most amusing printed illustration of the undertaking represented by that wonderful fabric that we have yet seen. It is liberal in volume, as well as rich in matter:—containing seven hundred and twelve pages of rhyme. Lastly, it is delicately decorated, with a pretty picture of its author to face the title-page.

In his introduction Mr. Hercules Ellis apprises the reader that the book is much less in bulk than was originally intended. He next announces his plan. Being "a romantic poet," his purpose appears to have been "the eternal consecration of the soil."—

"To give, in a series of Romances, a poetic picture of these races [Gael, Dane, Cymry, Saxon, Norman and British], interspersed and varied by short poems of sentiment—the main out in a succession of poems their successive eras, as well of thought as of action—to afford, in chronological order, instances of their glorious deeds, from the age of Fenian heroism to the present time—to paint, with the colours of poetry, their most illustrious warriors, from Fingal and Arthur to Nelson and Wellington, was the object originally intended to be carried out in the RHYME BOOK."

To this follows an apology for an Irish printer who disappointed at a very late period;—next, an announcement that Mr. Hercules Ellis desired (like *Alcæus*, in M. Augier's opera) by publishing his 'Rhyme Book' seriously to enter the lists for the palm of song at the Great Exhibition,—being satisfied that the World's Fair might, could, would and should include a living review,—*Edinburgh* or *Quarterly*,

so savage and Tartarly,—

a walking *Athenæum*,—a jury of Tennysons, Brownings, Procters, Sheridan Knowles', &c. &c.,—and a concourse of firming expositors. This stated, Mr. Hercules Ellis enters upon a second and subsidiary introduction. "Poetry," says he, "has never until now been suitably classified;" and thinks it should be divided into the following *genera*. The Song: "A minor poem, suited to be sung, and which does not exceed in length four stanzas of four lines." The Sonnet: "A minor poem, which does not contain more than one hundred syllables." The Rhyme: "A minor poem, not exceeding a song in length, but unmited to be sung," &c. &c. &c. Having accomplished the list of definitions and divisions to his satisfaction, Mr. Ellis begins again, and goes through the entire catalogue a second time. The tediousness of a twice-told tale, thus solidly and solemnly ensured to his clients, he proceeds to illustrate his theory by practice in the seven hundred pages aforesaid. The 'Rhymes' are on every conceivable subject, in every imaginable metre,—and not devoid of the pieturesque grace and haunting music of the echo: *e. g.*—

The Mountain Wind.

The wind, descending from our mountain homes,
New sweetly comes:
And, gently breathing on its seaward way,
It seems to say,
I've kissed the grass, beneath whose turf is laid
Thy own loved maid—
Oh! mountain wind! thy voice, so soft, and sad,
Will drive me mad!

Here the burden (at some intervals' distance) may have been caught from the *refrain* of M. Hugo's well-known 'Castiblenza.' In others of the songs, songlets, and idyls, we find pleasing remembrances of Moore (to whom, by the way, the Bee-and-Lily "Mystery" of Mr. Warren is largely in debt). Certain original beginnings and endings have a peculiarity all their own. 'The Romance of King Edward's Bones' starts off thus euphonically:—

King Edward Longshanks' bone is sigh.

'The Romance of Dell Bab' contains bars yet more romantic and curious of enunciation: as for instance—

Gorsy, great Hamish's only son,
Has heard the fame of Adrie's daughter.

The stanzas of 'The Romance of Chillinwallah' commence and wind up as follows—

Faugh a ballagh! faugh a ballagh!
Sweep the Sikhs from Chillianwallah!

The late Mr. James Smith's nonsense-chorus (with bones and tom-tom *obbligato*), in the 'Speeimens of National Poetry,' printed long ago in the *New Monthly Magazine*,—

Hugaboo-jab! hugaboo-joo!
Hail to the royal Quashboo!

was hardly more imposing than the above sweeping strain.—There is an apostrophe supposed to be sighed by Sir Robert Sale to the bulbul, "beside the Sutlej river," which might also have been quoted with good effect, were not time and space pressing.

Mr. Hercules Ellis is comical as well as Tyrtean and pathetic;—and rare illustrations of his vein of humour will be found in his 'Romance of the Midwife.' But the following fragment from a facetious ballad, besides being sweeter, is "disorecter," as a quotation meant for general edification.—

Kiscs.—Ballad.

Why kiss the lips,
Though they eclipse
The rubies?
Good sense you lack,
When, thus, you smack,
Like bookies.
'Tis not, from lips,
His nectar sips
Young Cupid:
For what's a kiss?
A smack and phiz—
So stupid!
Then why kiss lips, &c.

The above are fair specimens of the powers of Mr. Hercules Ellis as a rhymester:—average pages from the work exhibited by him, in Hyde Park, he assures us with a serious intention of trying for the Poet's Gold Medal. It has awailed little that the Commissioners received his offering merely among specimens of "Ornamental Binding and Typography." Mr. Hercules Ellis seems to have been resolute:—would not understand them—generalized the Commission again and again—was answered with a wise official hoving; and has printed his poetical lengths, and their executive lacunes in a postscript, to establish a case of grievance. Like Miss Edgeworth's self-enamoured author, determined that his "*Thaumaturgus* should still see the light," he *will* have his hearing, his laurel, and his medal. The former we have done our best to afford him. What manner of crown he should wear on his head, and of coin at his button-hole, or in his pocket, we will leave to be decided on some future occasion.

Education as a Means of preventing Destitution. By W. Ellis. Smith, Elder & Co.

"Or late years," says Mr. Ellis, "I have devoted some time and attention to science. I figure a knowledge of Economical Science. I have been giving lessons in this science in many schools, and have been endeavouring to persuade others to obtain the introduction of similar teaching into schools over which they exercise control or influence. I have also presided over several adult classes; and deeply impressed with the importance of what I am engaged in doing, I have spared no pains to induce the friends and promoters of Education to bend some of their efforts in the same direction. It is gratifying to me to be able to state

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that I have met with much success. I must also admit that disappointment and rebuffs have not been unknown to me."

This passage explains in a great measure the principles and objects not only of the present publication by Mr. Ellis, but also of those other treatises which have preceded it, and which have been all more or less intended to promote the study of political economy as a branch of ordinary education. Mr. Ellis has the great merit of not being a speculative educator merely. He does himself that which he recommends others to do:—and hence, although his books may be deficient in some of that plausibility and polish in which theorists are frequently so successful, it is impossible to disregard the earnestness, simplicity, and good sense which distinguish every part of his writings. In his principal views he is certainly correct. There cannot be a doubt of the extreme importance of including political economy in some form or other in the education afforded by even the lowest class of schools; and in point of fact it may be said with great truth that to no part of the population is a knowledge of the fundamental outlines of this science more indispensable than to the artisans and labourers whose happiness and comfort depend so closely on social arrangements which the economist only can explain. We hava the assurance of Mr. Ellis that in actual practice he has found no difficulty in rendering the elementary propositions of Adam Smith intelligible and interesting to the youthful and adult members of the Birkbeck and other schools in the management of which ha has been officially concerned. It is certain also that the practice contanded for by Mr. Ellis has been already extensively adopted, and has been productive of the best effects. Dr. Whately has estimated that there are at least four thousand schools in the United Kingdom in which instruction in political economy is made an integral part of the education afforded. In a great many of these schools Mr. Ellis's rudimentary treatises are the class-books employed, and we believe in general with success. Collateral evidence, indeed, of the merit of Mr. Ellis's Series is furnished by the recent appearance of a French translation under the superintendence of M. Terrien, and intended for use in French seminaries.

The book before us is less a special treatise on any particular branch of political economy than a general argument in favour of Mr. Ellis's great doctrine, that adequate instruction of the whole people in what he calls social science must be one of the principal means of diminishing and preventing destitution. In the sweeping form, and expressed in the precise language which Mr. Ellis adopts in the volume before us, we should givo only a qualified assent to his proposition. There are no social specifics; and important and comprehensive as many of the doctrines of political economy no doubt are, still we must constantly bear in mind that the complexities of moral and social phenomena are beyond the reach of any single process of removal or explanation. It is at once the strength and the weakness of ardent educators of the temperament of Mr. Ellis to embrace and defend extreme views. No evil, but on the contrary infinite good, will arise from the attempt to make political economy as well known as the alphabet; but we must he allowed to say, that if our only hope of national deliverance depended on the complete success of such on attempt, our prospects would be in the highest degree desperate.

One of the most interesting chapters in the present work discusses the subject of Competition. Mr. Ellis, if we understand him rightly, arrives at the conclusion that it is pure mistake to speak of competition as causing "a vast deal of mischief in the world." He contends that competition is inconvenient and disastrous only to such of the competing parties as are unskilful, indolent, or vicious; and we certainly misapprehend his words if ha does not in effect affirm positively that if all men were equal in skill, industry and conduct, no such thing as mischievous competition could be said to exist. We cannot help thinking that in this instance Mr. Ellis has fallen into a serious error by taking too confined a view of the question. He has seen clearly enough that *inequality* is one cause of competition; but he does not appear to have seen that *equality with excess of numbers* is another and perhaps a more fruitful source of pernicious competition,—and that when competition is complained of, it is nearly always a competition between equals, arising out of the excessive number of these equals, which is intended. In following out the purely general doctrines to which Mr. Ellis confines himself, it may not have been desirable to refer to particular examples; but if such a mode of illustration had been adopted, we imagine that Mr. Ellis would have had to deal with facts recent in the social history of this country, showing very clearly that under particular circumstances in an old community competition between equals is in the most emphatic sensa both excessivo and pernicious. Introduced with these observations, we find little to object to in the following passage.—

"There is another remark of more general application, which ought not to be altogether omitted in an attempt to compute with accuracy the influence of this not uncommonly misunderstood agent called 'Competition.' Of course everybody is familiar with the practice followed so universally and so advantageously, whereby each individual in society devotes himself to some special profession or branch of industry as the means of providing himself with the share of the necessaries and comforts of life which he desires. Now, every person who adopts this practice must attend to one condition if it is to be a source of benefit to him. *He must be careful to direct his talents and industry to the production of what others want.* If an artist produce a work of art, let it be ever so clever, of which nobody desires to become the possessor, he will be unable to obtain anything in exchange for it. If a hundred artisans apply themselves to make watch-springs, when fifty coold make enough to supply all the watches that are made up, these artisans will obtain but poor remuneration for their labour. If a capitalist produce and take to market commodities in a larger quantity than is required, the price that he can obtain will not balance the cost at which he produced them. His capital will be first diminished, and if he persist in his ill-advised proceeding, will at last disappear. *This condition of attending to what others are likely to want, is attached to success in every industrial and professional pursuit.* The demand of the public end their probable variations and fluctuations, must be thought of end estimated as carefully as the readiness and cheapness of the means of supplying them. Surely it is neither appropriate nor instructive to attribote the loss or suffering arising from want of attention to this very obvious condition of industrial and professional success to Competition, which seems to lead to nothing but useless repining, whereas the clear apprehension of the real cause points unmistakeably to the appropriate remedy. The consequences of want of capacity to engage in any particular department of industry are loss and sufferiog to those who persist in that for which they are unfit, and the consequonces of misdirection of capacity are nearly as bad. When it is considered that the incomes of all labourers, capitalists, and landlords,—by the usages of society, and in accordance with the general convenience, are paid in *money*, that the efficacy of these incomes to procure for their possessors the means of comfortable maintenance depends quite as much upon the *money's worth* as upon the *amount of money*, and of what importance it is that there should be, at all times and in all situatioos, persons competing to offer that money's worth, any lingering doubts, we would fain hope, that might yet survive among persons hitherto incredulous, of the useful offices performed by Competition will be obliterated.—While thus sensible of the meritorious services of Competition in aiding the production and distribution of wealth, we would not countenance the notion that man is to be considered solely as a competing animal. Let him compete by all means; but he should be so gifted with sensibilities, sympathies, and aspirations, that if his competitive efforts are crowned with success, the noblest use in his situation to which the fruits of his competition can be applied, will be in cheering the unsuccessful—in enlightening their ignorance, propping their weakness, correcting their errors, reforming their bad habits, and encouraging their efforts to attain self-reliance and self-respect. Without lending ourselves to any exaggerated, and if exaggerated, untrue expression of the actual services rendered by the competing, as contradistinguished from the noncompeting man; we think in answer to the question—'What is Competition?' we may unhesitatingly pronounce that, 'Competition is one of the most useful agents for diffusing the benefits of industrial enterprise over the whole world.'"

There are both good sense and sound political economy in this extract; and the book in which it occurs, and of which it indicates the character, will not fail to exercise considerable influence as the latest exposition of the views of a writer, speaking with the authority of one who has reduced his schemes of education into practice, and who has made larga sacrifices to promote the success of a movement in a high degree useful to his age and country.

Trade and Travels in the Gulph of Guinea, Western Africa; with an Account of the Manners, Habits, Customs, and Religion of the Inhabitants. By J. Smith. Simpkin & Co.

The author of this little volume, "having made several voyages to Western Africa, in the double capacity of surgeon and trading-captain (as the Africans style the agents of European merchants) to one of the first mercantile houses in England,—and having been repeatedly brought in contact with a great number of the inhabitants on several occasions for many consecutive months,—has acquired," he thinks, "some information, and witnessed some extraordinary scenes," worthy of heing related to the English public. We can authenticate this statement. The volume, though written with scarcely any pretenca to literary form, and though almost as coarse in style as it is in typography and in paper, is full of interesting matter, and tells more about the natives of Western Africa than many books of larger dimensions and greater literary endeavours.

Though the author expresses his unqualified abhorrence of the slave trade, his descriptions of the state of society in the native Negro States, and of the dreadful sufferings to which the enslaved Negroes, and especially the women, are subjected by the chiefs and other slave-holders of their own race, are such as to make it intelligible how the argument should have been occasionally adduced by the short-sighted defenders of the slave trade, that it was doing the Negroes a service to put them under white masters. Some of the details which he gives of the habits of the Negroes are such as almost to justify the conclusion that the most debased condition of human nature is to be found in the native States of Western Africa. Abominations and cruelty of all kinds, including systematic cannibalism and murder, are according to his account common everywhere under native Negro rule. With all this, however, the impression conveyed is, that the debasement of the Negro is not the debasement of a savage doomed

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to irrecoverable barbarism by any essential imbecility in his organization,—but the debasement of a being of strong passions and faculties capable of cultivation though yet uncultivated. It consists, in short, of a kind of powerful and massive brutality, — very different from and containing far more hopeful elements for future evolution than the feeble repulsiveness of such races as the Carib.

The following is an interesting sketch of the manner in which trade is carried on between European ships and the Negroes of the African coast. It certainly puts the Negroes in a more respectable light as "smart" mercantile men than we had seen them ever represented in before.—

"Few things astonish a white man so much on a first visit to this place, on u trading expedition, as tha amount of goods solicited by and intrusted to this people. With the utmost confidence a fellow uearly naked will ask you for three or four, or even five thousand pounds' worth of goods on credit, and iodividuals are often trusted to that amount. I have trusted more than oue man goods, the returns of which were worth betweeu two and three thousand pounds. Not oue in ten, however, thut asks for trust is worthy of credit to the amount of so many farthings. Somo few of the chiefs are really splendid merchants. Hard in making their bargains, but strict in their paymeots, they approach very near in their commercial transactions to their brethren of Europe and the civilized parts of Asiu and America. And they go about their business in a business-like manner. 'Capt. A or B,' a chief will say, 'I want some trust.' If you know that in the commercial sense of the word your customer is a good man, you will perhaps ask him when he means to pay you for any goods ha may purchase, and what are his resources; and he is sure to preface anything he may have to say by asking, if he has not a good head and koows how to turn any goods with which you may entrust him to good account; and if be has not a good name among white men, and if he does not always meet his payments. Having admitted all that he says of himself to be true, ho will inform you that he has so many canoes and so many slaves to man them, that he has several clever slaves to take command of the caooes and trade the goods in the interior, and that the only thing he wants is mooey (goods) to seud to market. Trusting to any great umount, or even at all, depends entirely upon circumstances. If a trader have a good name and a large house, that is, numerous wives and slaves —pretty good criteria of his wealth—he moy be trusted. But some of the young aspirants to commercial fame may as safely bo trusted as great chiefs. To acquire wealth, he knews hc must cultivate a good name, which makes him attentive to business and prompt in his payments. These men are easier to treat with thao the wealthier merchants. * * Everything being prepared for the reception of goods, trade commences, every one heing anxious to obtain goods on credit. If it be the first time you trade a ship, tho chiefs and small traders approach the subject cautiously. They will apprise yeu of their great wealth and importance and the large amount of business they did when you were captain, surgeon, or clerk of such and such a ship; how well they paid their debts without detaining the ship a single day—the rascals perhaps never paid ut all—what very good friends you used to be; perhaps ask how the parrot or monkey is they presented to you on a previous voyage; insinuate that they knew you would bring a ship to trade *that* voyage, you ure such a clever fellow, and 'savvy black man's fashion, and have told their women and boys so.' After a long palaver to this effect, they ask you to trust them; if you hesitate they feel certain of success, aod ask for a large amount, four times mere than they know you will let them have, supposing that after asking so large an amount yon will never refuse them a ceosiderahle quautity. The goods being examioed, a bargain struck, and a *book* signed to the effect that if you are not paid by a certain time they shall make certain forfeits, and tho goods being paid to them, they go away in great glee to spend the evening in jollification. The staple articles of trade are Manchester cettons, guns, gunpowder, tobacco, rum, and cowries; and besides these there are numerous other articles of commerce taken out, of less importance, as iron bars, copper and brass rods, beads, knives, hatchets, soap, earthenwore, crystal, jars, iron pets, horns, pearl buttons, silk handkerchiefs, &c. &c. * * Wheu you have sold all the goods that remained after giving trust, you send up the lofty masts of the ship that were lowered after mooring, as a signal thot you have done trading, and are now waiting for the returns for your trust; aod this is the time that your real trouble commences. Some of the people that made soch splendid promises of trading with you when you first entered the river, have never beeu near your ship since they were trusted, but have been trading with other ships on ready money terms with your goods. This is exceediogly vexatious; by giving credit, you perhaps iose a good customer, und run the risk of losing your goods inte the bargain, or at least of being put to great trouble aod anxiety, and if you do not give credit, the great merchants will do uo business with you. Your best friends uow leave off trading with other ships, and send you the oil as it comes down from Eboe, Quaw, &c. If any to whom you have given trust be trading with other ships, with your goods, in order to turn the capital over as often as possible, or their canoes have been detaiued at the various oil-markets, the werk of dunning commences io earnest, and to coovince them that you are really in earnest, you perhaps visit them three times a day; your errand, if not always alluded to, is perfectly understood. 'What come again, captain,' a trader has said to me the third visit, 'that time it be cockerapeak, I look your face; that time sun stand for top, (noou), I look your face; and now that time man wont to go moona (sleep), I look your face again; what palaver this be?'—'Trust, my friend, I want my mooey. What think you tell me that time you get my money? You ne tell mo I cannot stand (wait) ouo day for your side, (on your account) and den't you see what way my ship masts stand, and by-and-by my people must cry for chop.' If they promise to pay you on a certain day, you may generally depend upon them. If you are very much tried, you sometimes lose or affect to lose all patience, and call them ugly names, as niggers, bushmen, &c., and threaten to 'make book,' ond send it to all the white men to ioform them that they are rogues and not to be trusted, and to tell the merchants in England to caution their agents against having anything to do with them. If they have the means of paying, this sort of language will geoerally hova the desired effect, but you, like themselves, must study the characters you have to deal with, and treat them accordingly. * * Occasionally you are obliged to man your boats with whito men, and proceed a few miles up the creeks during the night, and wait for canoes coming down with their cargoes, aod seize those which belong to your debtors, and tow them to tho ship. I have seen canoe-men so alarmed, on pulliog suddenly upon them, as to jump overboard ond make for the bush, supposing that they were surprised by an enemy; but as soon as they found we were Englishmen, they returned. This is daogerous, both on account of the frequency of accidents and risk to health. I have returned on board in a morning, after layiog out iu a boat ull night, so disfigured with being stung with mosquittos, as hardly to be recognizable. Wben all other meuns fail, your last resource is to watch your debtor till he come on the river to visit somo ship, if you canoot induce him to come on board, und mako him prisoner. Then a palaver commences in earnest. Locked up with him in the trade-room, he first assails you with a volley of ahusiva epithets, and perhaps threatens to kill you the first time you go on shoro. Above all things, you must keep yourself cool, aod not exhibit the slightest symptom of fear. Finding that blustering and teasing will not induce you to let him go, he goes on another tack. Coaxing, flattery, and 'sweet-mouth,' (fair promises) are equally unavailing, he cannot be allowed to leave till the last farthing is paid. He then tries to excite your sympathy by tears, and debases himself by falling upon his knees before you te entreat you to let him go, and he will pay you every 'flint' yesterday, or to-morrow—the terms are synonymous.—His wives, children, and slaves, will laugh at and despise him; he will lose caste with his countrymen and credit with white men. When he finds that nothing he can say will avail, and that he must pay his debts before being released, he will perhaps burst into laughter, and tell you, you are all 'same devil,' and order the head slave that accompanies him to go to the beach and bring you off your due. A few hours after a palaver of this kind, I have gone ashore, and have been treated in the kindest manner possible, without the disagreeable circumstance having been alluded to."

Mr. Smith corroborates the statement, so often made, as to the unwillingness of the Negroes to speak about religious subjects with strangers.—

"Tho natives, men, women and children, are secret, even concerning things of the most trivial import, to u degree quite astonishing and incomprehensible to Europeuns, particularly to Englishmen and Frenchmen. Perhaps the first word a child is taught to lisp is '*aneméa*,' I don't koow. It is a futile task to attempt to extort any fact, eveu from a child or drunken person, contrary to his wish. What ideas you do obtain of their notions of good, evil, God, &c., will be from a chief or chief-priest, both of whom are, in some measure, beyond the consequences of tattling. I once interrogated a boy whom I caught in the act of stealing a piece of cloth, as to what were his prospects in the oext world, in the event of my causing him to be thrown overboard for the sharks to devour. 'Aneméa,' was the answer.—'What,' said I, 'don't you know in what country you will live after you leave this?'—'Aneméa, how should I know? I be poor boy; go ask gentleman.' I thought I would ask a gentleman, or chief, who coolly replied that the Ju-ju man (priest) knew everything, and that *he* was not a Ju-ju man, a fact he knew I was well acquainted with. I then applied to the Ju-ju man, who, in his turn, pleaded that he was uot a gentleman, but a poor devil of a Ju-ju man, and consequently knew nothing; and that I had better give him a piece of cloth to make Ju-ju palaver for my safe arrival in England; at the same timo very respectfully referred me to 'gentleman' who knew everything. Now, this reservedness did not proceed from having no notion, though perhaps not u very definite one, of a future state, but from a disinclination to let one know anything on any subject. Then another great difficulty in the way of acquiring or imparting information, or of inducing them to adopt our more civilized customs, is the almost uobounded influence of the priesthood, who exercise the power of life and death to a fearful extent. For a very trifling infringement of their ecclesiastical laws (which are so blended with civil laws, that it is an easy matter to find occasion of offence), u chief is ordered to proceed some four or five months' journey, thither and back, into the interior, te consult the Grand Ju-jo, as he is called, to the chief's great hindrance to business, and at no trifling expense and trouble. And what is worse than all, should he uot come down with a handsome douceur io the shape of English goods to both the priests at home and the Grand Ju-ju in the interior, he need never expect to find his way home again. Innovation is dreaded by the priests. They have wit enough to koow that if a slight advancement only in civilization were made, it would rapidly progress, and their priestly power and arrogance would speedily be thrown off. I will just relate a little circumstance in illustration of their disinclination to adopt European customs. Observing a large guana crawl out of a hole in the mud floor of a king's sitting-room, while conversing with him about a *dash* or present I was to take him next voyage, I offered to bring him a quantity of flags, or bricks, to lay the floor. He seemed pleased with the proposal, and after musing a short time, replied, he would consult the priest and tell me the result. Ou calling next day he informed me that Ju-ju would not allow it. This is a small matter in itself, but sufficiently iodicative of the power the priests exercise over even their kings. Being subject to rheumatism, he is very kindly permitted to use a piece of board as a footstool, to protect him from the damp, during the rainy season."

The following is a "Negro myth," which we have never seen before,—and cannot resist quoting.—

"At the factory of an English trader, a mafouka-machanga-man, a superior order of magistrate, joined us at the breakfast table, of whom I learnt how the cock fell into sad disgrace, by occasioning one half of the inhabitants of the world to be black, while the other half is white. The conversation on this subject

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was in substance as follows.—'What will you take mafouka-machanga; here's fish, fowl, and goat, cassavi and bread; sweet tombo, coffee, and rum-and-water.' —'Part a part,' (a little of each,) 'but what kind of fowl that a be, a cock or a hen?'—'I don't know; it makes no motter, I suppose.'—'Oh, but it makes a great deal of matter,—if he be a cock, I cannot eat him.'—'Why so?'—'Because them cock be d—— rascal.'—'How is this,—what harm has he done you?' —'A great deal of harm, the rascal; hed it not been for him, I should have been white man, all same yourself.'—'What has the cock to do with your being a black man?'—'Everyting.'—'Come, tell us all about it.'—'Well, I must. You see, when God Almighty first made man, he had only one day to make *them* in. He began early one morning, and worked hard all day, very hard, for he wanted to make a great many. When it was close for night, he ordered them all to stand up in a row, that he might see how they looked. Well, he examined them all over, and thought they would do very well, as far as shape went; but he had made them all *black*, and he thought they would look better if they were *white*; so he turned-to to white-wash them, and white-washed very hard all night that he might get them finished before the time he was limited to had expired. Well, when he had got just half through his work, the cock crew, and it was morning, so he was obliged to leave the rest unwhite-washed. If it had not been for him, God would heve finished them, and every man would be white. This is the reason why one half of the world be white men, and the other half black men, and why I cannot eat them d—— rascal that would not wait till God had finished!' (Early morn is expressed all over this coast by cockerapeak, (the cock speaks,) and it is the hour of rising.) The mafouka-machanga cooled his ire with half a tumbler of raw rum; and the cook being sent for, who assured us it was a hen, he made a hearty breakfast on fowl and the other good things without more ado."

The author, in his Prefoee, "regrets the occasion of some coarse expressions and allusions" to be found in his work; apologizing for them by saying that it was impossible to give a correct notion of so debased a people without introducing them. This apology hardly reconciles us to certain passages which occur in the book,—and which look, we must say, as if Mr. Smith's residences among the Negroes and voyages in African ships had somewhat blunted his European sense of propriety.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Stone the First at the Great Glass House. To be completed in Six Stones.—Flung evidently by a very small boy. A cart-load of such stones would not crack a pane of the Palace.

A Lyrical Literal Version of the Psalms. By the Rev. F. Fysh, M.A.—This translation is closer to the original than our authorized version,—and made to assume a sort of lyrical air by being divided into strophes, composed of what Mr. Fysh calls dimeters, trimeters, tetrameters, and hexameters. He gives these names to lines embodying two, three, four, or six leading ideas, as the case may be. Thus, the first of the following lines is, according to him, a tetrameter and the second a trimeter:—

For Jehovah blesses the way of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked perishes.

These dimeters, trimeters, and tetrameters, though often arranged in pairs, do not follow each other according to ony obvious law; and, what is still more remarkable, Mr. Fysh confesses that the number of feet which they contain does not always correspond to the number of ideas. This we can hardly understand, because he has previously defined a dimeter to be a line containing two ideas, a trimeter three,—and so on. The strophe divisions, which certainly have the merit of clearly marking out the anatomical structure of each psalm, are derived from Hengstenberg. The critical and explanatory notes abound with quotations from the same learned writer. They also display an acquaintance with the works of mony other eminent lexicographers and commentators.

The Fasti, Tristia, Pontic Epistles, Ibis, and Halleuticon of Ovid. Literally translated into English Prose with Copious Notes. By H. T. Riley, B.A.—Another of Mr. Bohn's translations of classical authors,—and decidedly superior to the last two or three that have come under our notice. The translator has executed his task with great care and ability. His version is as literal as it could well be made without doing violence to the purity of the English. It is rather remarkable, that so few translations of Ovid have been published in our language. The Fasti, Tristia, and Ibis have indeed been rendered into English verse after a fashion; but with no pretensions to fidelity or elegance—excepting perhaps in Wye Saltonstall's poetical translation of the Tristia. The Pontic Epistles are not known to have been translated into either English prose or verse. All the more credit is due to Mr. Riley for having pioneered his way so well through a comparatively untrodden region. In the Introduction he has furnished information with regard to the life and writings of Ovid, the mode of reckoning time among the Romans, the rising and setting of the stars, and the Roman Fasti. Each poem is preceded by a brief summary of its contents,—and accompanied by explanatory notes, containing enough to make even an unclassical reader fully comprehend the allusions in the text.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Baines's (J.) Tales of the Empire, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Bonar's (Rev. H.) Night of Weeping, new edit. 18mo. 2s. cl.
Burns (J.) On the Various Forms of Religion, 18mo. 1s. swd.
Cécile; or, the Pervert, by Author of 'Rockingham,' 10s. 6d. cl.
Charlesworth (J., B.D.) On Affliction and Spiritual Distress, 1s. cl.
Cheever's (Rev. H. T.) Life in Sandwich Islands, post 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Church-Goer (The), 'Rural Rides, or Calls at Country Churches,' 6s.
Cooper's (B. B.) Lectures on Principles, &c. of Surgery, 8vo. 21s. cl.
Cox's (J.) Glorious Gospel a Free Gospel, 2nd edit. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Creasy's Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World, 2nd edit. 2 vols. 21s.
Floral Offering (The), 14 col. designs, with printing in gold, 21s.
Hayman's (H.) Dialogues of the Early Church, 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.
Hinton's (J. H.) Letters written during a Tour in Holland, 3s. 6d.
Hofland's (Mrs.) Ellen, the Teacher, new edit. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Little Things, 18mo. 9d. cl. swd.
Mayo (H.) On Truths contained in Popular Superstitions, 7s. cl.
Mornings with Mamma, new edit. 6 vols. 18mo. 18s. cl.
Osborne's (J.) Steeple Chase Calendar, 1850-51, 12mo. 10s. leather.
Popular Library, Vol. 46, 'Shakspeare, by Hazlitt, Vol. 4, Pt. 2.' 1s.
Shakespeare (W.), Sentiments and Similes of, by H. N. Humphreys, illuminated, square, post 8vo. 21s.
Stories of Edward and his Little Friends, by Mme. de K. 3s. 6d. cl.
Tytler's (M. F.) Little Fanny's Journal, square, 3s. cl.
Whale (The), or Moby Dick, by H. Melville, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s 6d.
Whitehead (J., M.D.) On the Transmission of some Forms of Disease, &c. 8vo. 12s. 6d. cl.
Wordsworth's (W.) The Excursion, new edit. 12mo. 6s. cl.
Wordsworth's (W.) The Prelude, 2nd edit. 12mo. 6s. cl.
Wyatt's (M. D.) Industrial Arts of 19th Century, Part 2, 7s. 6d.
Wylie's (Rev. J. A.) The Papacy, its History, Dogmas, &c. 9s. 6d.
Yonge's (C. D., B.A.) Exempla Majora Græca, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.

CARE'S HOLIDAY.

(FOR MUSIC.)

On a bank thet loves to lean to the mountain firmer,
Where the lake gives back the green and the wild
bees murmur,
Memories all that trouble peace—ghost and dirge,
begone!
I will have an hour's release—dreaming in the sun.

Citron flowers shall fall upon my brow and not
wake me,
West winds through the vine-leaves run too gently
to shake me,
Rosy curtains in the sky, by kind angel spun,
Shall be o'er me as I lie, dreaming in the sun.

Nothing doleful, nothing grey, shall dare hover near
me,—
Ouphs and elf shall shrink away because they do fear
me:
For the things that evil are by their nature shun
Those who smile on poor old Care, dreaming in the
sun.

And when Fancy, like a child, is tired of her roving,
I will waken reconciled to Life, and more loving;
'Mid the burdened and distressed willing to toil on,
Since one hour I have been blest, dreaming in the
sun!

H. F. C.

THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

The gathering of the Nations is ended. On Wednesday, the last words were spoken. In a ceremony of extreme simplicity,—and offering as few pictorial effects as a ceremony in such an edifice as the Crystal Palace could present,—the august promoter of the design received from Lord Canning, as Chairman of the Juries, a general report of their labours, read a formal reply, and took his leave of the Foreign Commissioners then present. The interior of the building was then delivered over to the official persons present for the last time; many of whom lovingly lingered in the nave and transept until the usual hour of departure, and then reluctantly quitted a scene which can scarcely be expected ever to have an equal in our day.

But the real closing day of the Exhibition was the Saturday previous,—the last on which the public were admitted within the fairy walls that have grown so dear to them. The few days in the subsequent week were days of privilege,—and the narrowness of the final ceremonial had helped to antedate the interest of the parting hour. On that Saturday the higher price had failed of its restrictive power; and the people hung in masses over the galleries or wandered through the naves, no longer in search of instruction, but as men who converse lovingly and lingeringly with what they are about to lose. We confess, that at no time has the interior of the Crystal Palace called forth so much of emotion in ourselves since the inauguration day as on Saturday last. Something of the sense of sublimity which summed up the wonder and excitement of that memorable morning belonged to the manner in which the strong affections of a mighty crowd expressed themselves on this occasion. As the appointed hour of five drew nigh, the public heart got up a spontaneous and irrepressible celebration of its own. From all the great instruments in the building swelled up at once the music of the national hymn:—and fifty thousand voices bore the music through the long arcade. When the strain had ceased, the mighty cheer that ran through the vast spaces, in their immensity sounding even faint while multitudinous, and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs which carried continuous lines of motion along the far vista, made us feel that we had never seen anything grander save on the opening day. Most affecting it was, too, to see how the people clung about the galleries that overlooked the transept, and crowded it below, with a love that would not be removed. All the great bells and gongs in the building, with their mighty discords, could not ring them out. It seemed as if the crowd had determined to pass the night in the building; and for a long time, the euthorities, whatever might have been their anxiety, would not interfere with a fondness thus powerfully expressed. The night fell,—and gas had to be resorted to:—and the Palace presented new and startling aspects in the partial lights. When, at length, amongst the latest, we crossed its threshold, and from the Park saw the long line of edifice defined by the glancing through the trees of its own illumination, and reflected in the water, we felt that the Palace had never looked so like a fairy thing as now by its funeral lights.

Even before the ceremony of Wednesday closed the work of destruction commenced. For three days the sounds of removal have been heard in that great edifice which for five months and a half has been the resort of men from every corner of the earth; and already many of the most rare and splendid articles are scattered for ever. Another week, and all that will remain to us of the late brilliant display of genius and labour will be—its history. What a history that will be to write! To the artistic eye and feeling mind how unspeakably beautiful has been the whole career of the Exhibition! Begun in May and terminated in October,—its existence embraces a summer. No north-east winds have blown on it. All that is beautiful and fairy-like in our northern clime has been its daily handmaid. Born amidst the verdure of spring, it departs amidst the choicest fruits of autumn. Nature has been all the time in one of her most gracious moods. The sky has worn an aspect more than usually serene. The sun has looked his best throughout:—and the moonlights have been recognized by the old for such as they fancy that till now they had never seen since their youth. The common heart has grown poetical amid the marvels of the Palace of Glass.

But, for the thousands who have seen it the vision never can dissolve. The material and particular beauty is shut from the sense; but the general aspect and lineament of the scene are fixed for ever in "the book and tablets of the brain,"—and the moral interest and significance of the great fact are indestructible. Events like that of which the Crystal Palace has been the arena do not

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merely paint themselves on the mind of Europe, they plough it up and sow themselves for fruit in its furrows. This festival of the arts and industries is the great historical centre of the nineteenth century. In an age which has been full of wild revolutions, great deeds, stirring events,—it is the greatest deed and event of all. During these recent years the heart of Europe has throbbed more than once with more profound emotions than have shaken it for ages before; but this peaceful celebration of the triumphs of Art and Labour has moved it more deeply than all beside. Like one of those lights which Rembrandt threw into the centre of his grand and sombre pictures, the tale of Hyde Park in 1851 will fall on the page of history. Fallen thrones will lie around it: here the Saturnalia of power,—there the wild excess of popular freedom,—on one hand the grim aspect of military rule, on another dungeons and scaffolds for the crime of thought,—everywhere anarchy, repression, conspiracy, darkness, dismay and death. In the midst of all these struggling spirits rises up the great figure of the Crystal Palace, to redeem the age. In the records of the event which is now closing the historian will find nearly all that is of perennial and universal interest in this age. Since the time of the Crusades, the populations of Europe have not been stirred by a common thought—set in motion by a common interest, as we have seen them during the past summer. Not to this country or to that—the event now and hereafter belongs,—but to the world. The armies of Europe have often been arrayed against each other, and once within the memory of living men on the most colossal scale,—but the largest gatherings of men on battle-fields fade into insignificance before the mighty concourse which has this year gathered for brotherhood in Hyde Park. We must go back to romantic and fabulous times in search of parallels,—and there shall fail to find them. The Goths who overran Italy—the invading army of Xerxes—the conquering hosts of Semiramis—dwindle away in face of the six millions of visitors to Hyde Park. Six millions! Let us for a moment compare this sum total with other well-known figures. Of the sixty-two sovereign States of which Europe is composed, only eight have a larger population. Many nations, old and new, have made a distinguished figure in the world with less. The Athenian empire never reached so high a point. With half this number at his back, the Macedonian madman subdued Western Asia. At its proudest day the Venetian empire did not count so many subjects. At the present time, Holland has not half the sum,—Switzerland not more than a third. Denmark and Portugal combined do not reach the number. The united kingdom of Sweden and Norway contains little more than four millions. The entire populations of Bavaria and Wirtemburg could not by emptying themselves have supplied the streams of human beings flowing into Hyde Park this summer. Had every man, woman and child been swept from the dominions of the four kings of Greece, Wirtemburg, Saxony, and Hanover into the Crystal Palace, they would have failed to fill the space as it has been filled:—aye, even with the entire populations of the three imperial free cities, Frankfort, Lubeck, and Bremen, added! France alone has sent to our capital a host three times more numerous than Napoleon's famous Army of England,—Prussia has marched into our territory a larger force than the great Frederick ever commanded at one time,—Austria has poured into these northern islands more men than ever found their way through Brandenburg during the "Thirty Years' War." So far as Europe is concerned, there has been no movement of mankind so general as this in the historic times.

But Europe, vast as it is, is only a continent,—and the event of which we write has stirred the heart of a world. In and through it, the genius and industry of the United States have made their advent in Europe. Canada, Mexico, Peru, Chili, the Brazils have sent hither their works and their representatives. Africa and Asia have not been indifferent to the summons which called them to the great centre of human activity. The Moor, the Arab, and the Ethiopian all hastened to obey the call. Tunis and Egypt sent in the best expressions of the civilization—the physical and domestic life—of Northern Africa; while from Liberia, the Gold Coast and the Cape came specimens of the natural but undeveloped wealth,—and words of sympathy and confidence from the Interior and the South. China and Hindústan—the disciples of Confucius, Buddha, and Mohammed—found in the proposed gathering a common ground on which they could unite with the children of other tongues and other creeds. From the farthest seas, Australia sent to the mother country illustrations of her mineral wealth, her magnificent vegetation, her boundless fertility. No continent was absent,—no single civilized country, save only unhappy Naples.

As yet, we are too near the great event to observe all its features or understand all its proportions. Like men standing in the immediate shadow of a vast edifice, we have a sense of surrounding grandeur:—but a distance in time is needful for the acquisition of a correct and analytic point of view. A year hence, much will perhaps be clear that as yet is confused,—many things conspicuous that now appear to be standing in the background. One of the great lessons which the Exhibition has taught mankind has been, the futility of prophecies and the danger of hasty judgments. Of the thousand and one conjectures that were abroad before the building opened in May, the instinctive belief in its grandeur and success is almost the only one that has come out a truth.—Exactly a year ago, the public mind was agitated with the idea of a new black death, to be brought into this country by our foreign visitors:—the summer has been healthy beyond parallel, considering the immense increase of population.—A great reputation was staked—and so far lost—on the assertion that the Crystal Palace would fall like a house of cards in the first wind.—More than one of the daily papers proclaimed that a revolution would be attempted during the excitement. Many of them professed to have positive information about a Communist conspiracy in London, the object of which was to plunder the accumulated wealth of nations. The fancied conspirators have met by the hundred thousand in the Palace,—and walked quietly out at the ringing of a bell.—Every conjecture as to the number of visitors and the amount of receipts has been prodigiously surpassed. The wildest flights of fancy did not rise to six millions of visits and half a million sterling as income. At the outset some objected to one thing,—some to another; but we fancy there are few persons now who would have had anything in the building arranged otherwise than it was. The various articles exhibited have not combined more happily into a great material picture than they have to produce a great moral result.

AUSTRALIAN MAIL ROUTE.

The proposed line from England to the Australian islands by way of the Cape of Good Hope is fit only for convicts, midshipmen, and Colonial-office despatches. It is fourteen thousand miles long, replete with stopping places (*i. e.* delays),—and it carefully selects and marks out the stormiest and most dangerous seas on our globe for its steamers to encounter. The electric telegraph, express trains, and fast steamers make us in Europe grumble at any slow mode of communication:—our Colonies ask for similar conveniencies,—and we can benefit them in no better way than by assisting them to facilities for quick and regular intercourse with ourselves by good steamers. This is the best "protection" that we can give them.

Parliamentary trains on our railways are the slowest going. Our war steamers generally find 8 knots an hour too much for them. The English mail from India and Government despatches are carried from Bombay as far as Marseilles at about 6 or 7 miles an hour; and then—and not until then—begin to travel quickly. And now, consistently with this policy, the Admiralty propose the Cape route to Sydney, instead of the Pacific route, merely because they can take the Cape on their way,—and because they fancy, most erroneously, that the central American Isthmus is an obstacle.

It is certainly cheaper "to kill two birds with one stone": but the proposal will not answer—and will eventually be abandoned,—simply because it is a long, tedious route, and will not satisfy Australia, vociferating for speedy intercourse with Europe, and insisting on it urgently,—for now she has gold to remit, and can afford to buy her own pace.

The Cape of Good Hope requires a line of mail steamers for itself; and we cannot help the fact that it is out of our way to India and Australia. Nor shall we succeed in getting Sydney, Hobart Town, and Auckland to use our mails,—if they can get a quicker way; and if this proposed line is established, it will be provoking for Government to carry empty mail-bags, few passengers, and no gold. For, whether the Admiralty choose or not, all letters from Australia and New Zealand will within a few years reach this country *viâ* Panama and the West Indies. With specie the same holds good:—for the sooner gold reaches the Mint or melting-pot after it leaves the mine the better. Quick returns are indispensable to the miner. It is possible that letters from Swan River may hereafter find the route to England *viâ* Ceylon suitable,—but even this is unlikely; and they will not like the Cape route a whit better than the inhabitants of Sydney or New Zealand. Wherever steamers are reasonably demanded, they will be supplied by *somebody*,—and men, gold and letters will go the quickest way.

The calculation is simple enough. Steamers at present go from Southampton to Chagres with mails for Panama every fortnight. They are English, and patronized by our Government, and are *therefore* slow:—profess to be so,—and are slower than they profess. I have sailed in four of them,—and crossed the Atlantic in two—the Trent and the Avon; and I never saw eight knots an hour got out of either. However, they ought to go from Southampton to Chagres in 18 days. But at any rate, steamers go from Liverpool to New York in 11 days,—and from New York to Chagres in 9 days, with great regularity. Another day reaches Panama; or half a day—for an active man can at present cross from Panama to Chagres in 12 hours,—and when the railway is finished the transit will be about 3½ hours. I crossed from Panama to Chagres last winter with heavy baggage in 16 hours. We can go therefore now from London to Panama in 21 days; and the crossing of the Isthmus is so easy,—and soon to be so much more so,—that it is no obstacle at all. The transshipment both at Navy Bay (near Chagres) and at Panama is quite simple, for both ports are excellent and sheltered. Arrived at Panama, there are about 7,900 miles to Sydney, coaling at Otaheite, and touching at Auckland, in New Zealand, to deliver mails. This passage ought to be done by good steamers in about 28 days;—making 49 days from England to Australia *viâ* Panama. By no other route can it be done more rapidly,—unless, as is talked of, European railways are extended into Asia—which may occur in time. The steamers from Panama to Sydney could be put on at once; securing the mail route, and being of great use,—and (a serious consideration) probably paying far better than if they went by the Cape of Good Hope.

The Admiralty should seriously reconsider their purpose. Their experiments hitherto in many departments have been expensive and unsuccessful,—and the Cape route will add to their failures. The mercantile correspondence, remittances of value, and traders will patronize the quickest line, and come to Europe by Panama. The uncarded wool, boiled tallow, Government despatches and Admiralty agents, may be obliged by Government to keep the old path round the Cape—14,000 long miles! This they cannot by any effort do under 60 or 62 days, steam as they will; for the Atlantic current is the whole way against them from the Island of Ascension to the Cape,—and although they get westerly winds about St. Paul's and Amsterdam Islands,—this will avail them little in that boisterous locality, and will be dead in their teeth as they come home.

If we could place fast steamers—like the new line from Liverpool to New York—from Southampton to Chagres, and from Panama to Australia,

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—the distance from London to Sydney—12,500 miles—might be done without difficulty in 42 days. —The old-fashioned notion which, if I mistake not, the Parliamentary Commission gravely stated, that there is danger to our mails or gold in passing the Isthmus of Panama, "in possession of a foreign power," is ridiculous and untenable. The Admiralty or Government may just as well be afraid of sending and receiving our East Indian mails and remittances by Marseilles, Trieste, and the Isthmus of Suez. The Egyptian route answers well; and the Indian mail will always pass over some ground not our own, and will never again go round the Cape of Good Hope.

Every circumstance is against the proposed Australian route,—distance, stormy districts of the ocean, currents, and monsoons; and many points are greatly in favour of the Panama and Otaheite line,—its shortness (for it is nearly a direct line), its having the trade-wind in going and the gulf stream in returning (by New York steamers), the Pacific being comparatively calm and favourable for steaming,—nearly half the line being in active operation, and the rest to be easily completed. Add, that New Zealand will be benefited as well as Australia; for the Cape route to New Zealand is upwards of 2,000 miles longer than that by Panama,—an important consideration, and becoming more so daily. A.D.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

A morning contemporary, in dealing with the new Stamp Office Returns, assigns to the *Athenæum* —for the immediate object which it has in view—a place in the list of largely circulated journals which conveys an impression entirely erroneous. The purpose which it has in hand is, from the relative strength of the various daily and weekly papers as exhibited by the Return, to draw certain political conclusions;—and we refer to its statement only for the purpose of pointing out the false inference which might be drawn from that as it there stands without further explanation. The writer says:—

In 1846, the *Nonconformist* took out 113,500 stamps; in 1850, 154,175. Increase, 40,675.
In 1846, the *Observer* took out 177,500 stamps; in 1850, 314,000. Increase, 136,500.
In 1846, the *Athenæum* took out 117,000 stamps; in 1850, 144,158. Increase, 27,158.
In 1846, the *Weekly Dispatch* took out 2,421,500 stamps; in 1850, 1,950,000. Decrease, 471,500.
In 1846, the *Britannia* took out 252,331 stamps; in 1850, 163,873. Decrease, 88,458.
In 1846, the *Weekly Chronicle* took out 260,000 stamps; in 1850, 85,000. Decrease, 175,000.
In 1846, the *Examiner* took out 250,500 stamps; in 1850, 228,228. Decrease, 22,272.
In 1846, the *Spectator* took out 194,000 stamps; in 1850, 152,500. Decrease, 41,500.

It is true, every reader would see from this table that the *Athenæum* is one of the weekly journals having a yearly increasing circulation:—but its real place in the series is here neither seen nor suggested. Both in this statement and in the remarks which our contemporary bases on it, the important fact is overlooked that ours is essentially an unstamped paper. The Returns alluded to are therefore no measure of our general circulation. The 144,158 stamps officially declared to have been taken out for the *Athenæum* in 1850 represent that special portion only of our issue which finds its way into such places as know but little of newsvenders' or booksellers' weekly parcels. The only fact to be gathered from the Return in relation to us is, that whereas in 1846 there were but 2,242 copies of the *Athenæum* despatched from our office weekly on their way into such nooks and corners, there were 2,768 similarly issued in 1850,—or, an average weekly increase of 546 copies. In the above citation and in the remark which follows it,—that, "taking out the *Weekly Chronicle*, which has been merged into another paper, the circulation of the lowest on this list is by no means a small circulation for a weekly paper; and taking the *Athenæum* and *Examiner* as tests of merit—looking at their literary excellence—the *Nonconformist* and *Spectator* as to style and point,—one must see that they are papers circulating among a refined, educated, and reflective class, not suited for the great mass around them,"—a false place—and we venture to add, a false character—are assigned to us. We are made to rank lower in point of circulation than the *Nonconformist*, *Observer*, *Examiner*, *Spectator*, or *Britannia*,—when it is perfectly well known to all persons having an interest in such knowledge that the case is far otherwise:—and while it is true that we write for reflective men, we believe that a largely increasing audience is to be gained among the masses which were once called uneducated men, and for that reason, by a vicious logic, passed over by all who assumed the office of educators.

As we conjectured, the arrival of a balloon purporting to be from Sir John Franklin's Expedition turns out to be a hoax. Such, at least, is the decision of the Admiralty; and we wish that they could have told us that the heartless projector of the trick was discovered and likely to be punished.

Accounts have been received, *viâ* New York, of the arrival at that city on the 30th of September of the Advance, one of the United States Arctic searching vessels. Her companion the Rescue parted from her in a gale of wind when off the American coast.—It appears that Commander De Haven, undeterred by the rough treatment that his ships experienced during their extraordinary drift in the ice,—and which, we are told, literally "chiselled off the Rescue's cutwater and bowsprit,"—determined to renew his search for our countrymen. With this view, he pushed to the northward; and succeeded in reaching Upper Melville Bay,—where his ships again became hemmed in by ice. From this he was not liberated until the 19th of August; at which time the season was so far advanced that it was impossible for him to proceed. He, therefore, was reluctantly compelled to return home. During the imprisonment of the ships in the ice, the crews suffered intensely from cold. In November, the mercury fell below zero, the bedding froze in every apartment, and the coffee and soup became congealed as soon as taken off the fire. When the ships entered Baffin's Bay, the ice frequently lifted them by the stern as high as six feet. The men had their knapsacks constantly prepared to leave the ships,—and they were three weeks without taking off their clothes. It was at this time that the scurvy broke out,—attacking all the crews, including the officers. With such a series of perils and disasters, it reflects great credit on Commander De Haven and Dr. Kane that they conquered the terrible disease and brought the Expedition home without the loss of a man.—Dr. Kane states, that, having seen the resources of the Arctic regions, he conceives the probability that Sir John Franklin and his crew may be yet alive.

The booksellers and publishers of Dublin have recently exhibited themselves in a somewhat curious light. The facts as we find them in the Dublin papers are worth stating,—but we leave them to suggest their own comments. It would seem that a Dublin citizen, Mr. Codd, having deserved well of his fellows, was to be by them presented with a testimonial for public services,—and a sum of 500*l.* was raised by subscription for the purpose. Mr. Codd, thinking a piece of plate but an unmeaning sort of thing, preferred that the money should be laid out on a library of books to such extent as it would purchase;—and applied to Mr. Smith, of the firm of Hodges & Smith (publishers to the University), to supply the books, and give a catalogue of the same with their prices. Mr. Smith offered Mr. Codd 1,240 volumes for 500*l.*; but declined to annex the prices to each lot, on the ground that the trouble would be too great. Mr. Codd was very naturally dissatisfied:—so, he asked Mr. Willis, of Covent Garden, to furnish a catalogue of what books in standard English literature that gentleman would give for 500*l.* Mr. Willis, it is stated, knew nothing of Mr. Codd; but he at once, like a straightforward tradesman, supplied a catalogue with the price of each work annexed and the style of the binding specified. With that catalogue in his hand, Mr. Codd—we scarcely see why—applied again to Mr. Smith. He asked the latter to name his prices for each particular lot therein,—but was met with a renewed refusal. On this, the order for the library was executed by Mr. Machen's buying the books in the London market (Mr. Willis supplying a share), and merely charging a commission;—and the result has been, that Mr. Codd has obtained a library, containing upwards of 200 volumes more than Mr. Smith had offered, of the highest class and best editions of English literature. —But a very curious part of the matter has to come. Baffled as to the sale on their own arbitrary terms, the Dublin booksellers have ingeniously made the matter an Irish question. Backed by the bookbinders—for some of the books had to be bound in London,—they have raised a cry of indignation at the fact of an Irishman buying his library in London, when—as they, with a somewhat curious courage under the circumstances, venture to say—as good value for the money could be given in Dublin. Our readers can scarcely imagine the ill blood that has been caused by this transaction. It will be even difficult for them to understand this new version of the cry "Ireland for the Irish."

We find it reported in the morning journals that Lord Brougham intends during the ensuing session of Parliament to submit to the Government a proposition for consolidating the Middle and Inner Temples, Gray's Inn and Lincoln's Inn, into one legal University, to be governed by a Senate and Chancellor, similarly to other Universities. We understand, the proposer wishes to establish professorships in the different branches of law and equity, the holders of which are to lecture as the Professors do at Oxford and at Cambridge. It is said that another part of the proposed scheme contemplates the abolition of the immense fees which are at present charged for entering any of the Inns of Court.

"Literary and antiquarian circles," says a correspondent, "will experience a blank in the loss of Mr. George Baker; who expired at his residence in Northampton on the 12th inst. at the advanced age of seventy-one years. Mr. Baker is principally known as the author of the 'History of Northamptonshire,'—which has long been recognized as authority on the subject of which it treats. He was a zealous supporter of the cause of popular education in the town where he so long resided, and took a warm interest in literature."

In an article on the now completed electric telegraph between Dover and Calais and the immediate opening of the lines for ordinary purposes between London and Paris, the *Journal des Débats* urges the French Government to proceed at once to the completion of the wires from Paris to Marseilles, so as to place London in instantaneous communication with the Mediterranean. It contends that the objections which have been made against an electric telegraph unconnected with a railway are unfounded. In case of an insurrection the railway, it argues, affords no security against a mob that might be disposed to interrupt the communication from political motives; and with regard to the danger from wanton mischief, although an electric telegraph along the ordinary high road may be less secure than on a railway, yet if the posts were made a little higher than those now commonly in use,—as, the *Débats* might have said, they are on the line between Laibach and Trieste, where the wires cross roads, rivers, and alps without harm,—the wires could not be injured without a degree of trouble and circumspection which would seldom be employed at the risk of detection and punishment. But the best practical argument is to be drawn from the examples of Austria and of America. In the last-named country there are thousands of miles of electric telegraph apart from railways. It is calculated that the cost of such a telegraph between Châlons-sur Saone and Avignon (which would at once complete the communication between London, Paris, and Marseilles) would not amount to more than 2,700*l.* The *Débats* thinks it absurd that so stupendous a result should be delayed four or five years for the sake of so trifling a sum.

A week or two ago we noticed the circumstance of a savings bank having been formed in connexion with the Wakefield Mechanics' Institution—in which deposits as low as a penny are received;—and it now occurs to us that a similar adjunct would be a most desirable addition to many of our ragged and industrial schools. We throw out the suggestion for the benefit of those concerned in their management. We hear of a project for establishing a reading-room and library in the

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immediate neighbourhood of Seven Dials, to which the principle of requiring a weekly penny deposit, in a bank to be established for the express purpose, as a condition of membership may probably be tried. The principle seems to us sound and its application easy. When once it shall have been brought into successful operation, we have little doubt that it will readily extend itself to other institutions.

The scheme for reclaiming the Bedford Level—now so likely to become a realized historical fact—has given rise to projects of a similar kind in other parts of the country. Within a few years, the river Ribble, in North Lancashire, has been made deep and narrow; thus improving the navigation, while thousands of acres of rich alluvial land have been recovered from the sea and given up to husbandry. But a more colossal idea is now under discussion in that enterprising county—that of the recovery of the fine inlet known as Morecambe Bay. There are already many objects of interest, ancient and modern, gathered about the shores of that bay. On one side rises the princely Castle of Lancaster—on another, the fine ruin of Furness Abbey. On the western promontory stands the new town of Fleetwood, on sands which twenty years ago were tenanted only by sea-gull and rabbit,—on the inner and northern shore lie the famous Ulverstone sands,—and a few miles out to sea rises the rock-defended Piel Castle, celebrated as a pirate station from the earliest times. The interest of all these, however, fades before that attaching to the conception which proposes to shut the ocean out of that stormy bay—to reclaim that space, about 70,000 acres in extent, over which so many waters pour, for the use of man.—The *Ulverstone Advertiser* assures us that a company is now in process of formation having this object in view:—and that an application will be made to Parliament in the ensuing session for the necessary powers to proceed.

The Paris papers announce the death of M. de Savigny,—a member of the Zoological Section of the Academy of Sciences in that capital. M. de Savigny—whom ill health has long detained from the sittings of the Institute—was well known for his labours during the French Expedition into Egypt,—and for his researches into the anatomy of insects and of crustacea.—The same journals report the premature death, at Lyons,—at the age of only twenty-seven—of M. Auguste de Blignières,—Professor of Rhetoric in the Collége Stanislas, and one whose youth had given large promise of future literary distinction. M. de Blignières had just published a volume, said to be full of learned particular and elegant criticism, on the subject of Jacques Amyot.

Surrounded as we seem to be on all sides with evidence of the increasing supplies of gold and silver, it is of consequence that we should not lose sight of the other side of the question,—namely, the existence of evidence which indicates that in particular and extensive regions the *present* supply of gold and silver is altogether inadequate to the wants of the population. The prevalence of such a state of things will be found, we imagine, more common in the south-east and centre of Europe than at first sight would appear probable. In the Austrian provinces especially there seems to be an almost total dearth of metallic circulation composed of silver and gold; and the reports of recent travellers all concur in describing the people of those countries as suffering extreme inconvenience from the deficiency of a circulation of the precious metals. It is true that the disorganized state of the whole of the Austrian system has beyond doubt provoked a most extensive hoarding of the coin previously in circulation. Men have become anxious to have by them in the form of coin at least some portion of any property which they may happen to possess. Still, the hoarding will not account for the whole of the observed facts. We find, for example, in the foreign correspondence of one of the morning papers of the last ten days a statement with reference to Galicia, that silver has there totally disappeared as the circulating medium,—that gold has also disappeared,—and that the wants of the population are most inadequately served by a clumsy circulation of paper and copper. The paper itself is insufficient in quantity; and this insufficiency is so great, that the people have been compelled to tear up the paper notes for comparatively larger sums into halves and quarters as the only means of obtaining a smaller denomination of currency. But the notes themselves in their entire state are drawn for sums so infinitesimal as to seem absurd. There are, for instance, paper notes for 6 kreutzers, or 2½*d*. sterling each,—and a note for 20 kreutzers (8*d*.) is reckoned a large affair. We have before us at this moment a note for 2 kreutzers—that is for ¾*d*. sterling—purporting to be issued by C. W. Medan, of Leitmeritz, in Bohemia. Thirty of these notes would of course make a florin,—or be equal to about 2*s*.—When we hear, therefore, of Californian and Australian discoveries of gold, it will be well for us not to overlook the miserable expedients to which Austrian subjects have been reduced in the management of their currency.

ENGLISH ART.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec. Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN is exhibited immediately preceding the Diorama of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Docks, Cintra, the Tagus, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mausoleum, "The Taj Mehal," the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior.—Daily, at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s. 6d. and 3s. Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION AND THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—All the MOST INTERESTING DEPOSITS at the GREAT EXHIBITION will, in turn, be LECTURED ON at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The PRESENT LECTURES are by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the Application of IRON and STEEL in the MANUFACTURES of the UNITED KINGDOM, exhibited in the CRYSTAL PALACE; and by Dr. Bachhoffner on the ELECTRO-METALLIC DEPOSITS exhibited there, illustrated by a SPLENDID SERIES of Messrs. Elkington's SPECIMENS.—The Exhibition of the OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE, magnifying objects upwards of 100,000 times their natural size.—The great economy of COOKING by GAS explained.—A LECTURE on the HISTORY of the HARP, by Frederick Chatterton, Esq., with Vocal Illustrations.—A SERIES of SPLENDID DISSOLVING VIEWS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from half-past Ten till Five, and every evening from Seven till half-past Ten.

FINE ARTS

Monument of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia. Inaugurated May 31st, 1851. Berlin.

For several generations it had been a favourite idea with the Kings of Prussia to erect a colossal monument to the memory of their greatest warrior and statesman. Even during the lifetime of the conqueror, the generals of his army had conceived the design of raising at their private expense an equestrian statue in his honour, similar in character to the well-known group of the Great Elector on the bridge near the König Schloss in Berlin. But with a modesty which more recent heroes have not imitated, the King replied to their proposal that in his opinion it was a commendable custom not to erect monuments to a man while still alive. The project was reserved for the next generation; but the events of the French revolution, followed by long and exhausting wars in which Prussia became one of the great battle grounds of Europe and Berlin the prize of successive victories, created for King and people other cares than those connected with the heroes of a departed age. The sword of Frederic became a greater desideratum for Berlin than his statue.—Afterwards, the long peace and growing prosperity of Prussia led to the revival of the cherished project,—and MM. Schinkel and Rauch were commanded to prepare sketches for a grand column. Schinkel's sketch may be seen in his works. The designs failed to give satisfaction in high quarters, and some years were allowed to pass by without a single step being made towards the erection. At length, M. Rauch conceived the happy idea of representing the conqueror in the costume of his age—surrounded by his favourite generals,—and executed a small model in which he displayed the great features of his plan. This model—which we have lately had an opportunity of inspecting in the artist's atelier, and the general resemblance of which to the finished work we can assert on our own knowledge,—instantly commanded all suffrages; and the King gave orders for its execution in bronze, but with an alteration of the pedestal which robbed it of all its originality and character. Fortunately, however, for Art, the King died while the sculptor was still engaged on the chief figure; and his successor, the present sovereign, gave his permission for the artist to return to the original and more elaborate pedestal.

Many hands and many minds have been employed more or less on this right royal monument. In the higher modelling department, the sculptors Albrecht Wolff and Gustave Bläser rendered conspicuous assistance; Professor Strack aided in the erection of the pedestal; Herr Friebel performed the casting; and some thirty other persons are named as having been employed in connexion with the work. The site on which the statue is erected—at the end of *Unter den Linden*,—the overarching branches of the trees providing a green and graceful framework, without in the slightest degree interrupting the view or interfering with the brilliant lights thrown off from the polished metal:—is the very best and most public in Berlin. The monument consists of three parts:—the figure of the king,—the four groups on the faces of the pedestal, flanked by equestrian statues at the corners,—and four smaller allegorical groups on a higher tier of the pedestal. The supreme figure—though the face of the warrior is neither handsome nor heroic—and the splendid charger on which he sits, make one of the finest groups produced in modern times. There is no imitation here of classical forms or costumes. The King wears his military hat and mantle, boots and gloves, sword and saddle-bags. In fact, the future historian will find in Rauch's monument the entire physical aspect of the Prussian hero. As he lived, so he stands before the eye in this enduring form.

On the lower faces of the monument are represented the soldiers, writers and philosophers who illustrated the reign of Frederick. Ferdinand Duke of Brunswick, Henry Prince of Prussia, Generals Zieten and Seydlitz occupy the corners,—each figure being mounted and forming a distinct equestrian statue in itself. Twenty-seven other figures, each as large as life, occupy the four faces; the most popular and interesting of these groups—we write this under the recollection of a recent visit to Berlin—being the one looking towards the Brandenburg Gate, and representing Kant, Lessing, Graun, Carmer, Schlabrendorf and Von Finkenstein, surmounted by two allegorical figures. The taste which conceived also arranged the groups in their most appropriate and effective order. The king and his generals have their faces turned towards the arsenal and the royal palace,—the writers, lawyers and philosophers towards the popular promenade, *Unter den Linden*. On the whole, whether we regard the originality of the design, the magnitude and variety of particulars comprised in the work, the years of labour employed on it, the cost to the Royal Treasury, the beauty of minute details, or the harmony and brilliance of the whole, we must confess that few works of art produced in modern times can compare with this monument of the Great Frederick.

With the remembrance of the finished statue fresh in our minds, we can bear testimony to the truthfulness as well as to the beauty of these its pictorial illustrations. The letter-press which accompanies the engravings here given is sufficient without being redundant. The book, however, bears no publisher's name; and we suppose that it is privately printed "by his Majesty's chief printer" for the King himself. It forms a most elegant and effective *souvenir* of Rauch—a medallion of whom is on the fly-leaf—and of this the greatest of his many admirable works.

Fine-Art Gossip.—M. Louis Rochet's bronze equestrian statue of William the Conqueror, executed for his birthplace the town of Falaise, is now finished,—and has been exposed for a few days to the criticisms of the Parisians, on a temporary pedestal erected in the grand square of the Champs Élysées, previously to its removal to its

final destination. The composition is described as one of the most daring ever executed in monumental statuary. The horse bestrid by the warrior is in the act of rearing high,—and clings to the base on which it stands by only the two hind feet and some hairs of the tail. William holds out the Gonfalon which Pope Alexander the Second sent him for his northern crusade:—on which is embroidered the Roman cross, and the famous war-cry "Dex aie" (Dieu nous aide).—The monument is to be inaugurated at Falaise on the 20th of the present month.

Early this month, a statue of Rembrandt, destined for Amsterdam, the town in which the painter died, in 1674, was successfully cast in bronze, before a select company of witnesses, at the Hague. The model is the work of the Dutch sculptor M. Royer. It is sixteen feet in height;—yet, notwithstanding its colossal proportions, weighs only 18,000 pounds.

A Correspondent sends us the following remarks on the zeal and cost expended in the last quarter of a century in church-building and decoration on the Continent.—"Within the last five-and-twenty years we have successively seen undertaken not merely such rich and costly new edifices as the Basilica at Munich and the Church on the Apollinarisberg on the Rhine,—but also, the completion of Cologne Cathedral, and the rebuilding of *San Paolo fuori le Muri* at Rome.—Judging, too, from what has been done, the labour of love cannot have gone on lazily for Rome. The transept and tribune of the *Basilica* (ample enough to make three churches) are completed, with the exception of the medallion border of circular mosaic portraits,—and, I hope, of painted glass in the windows. It must be added, however, that the two altar-pieces by Signor Podesti are of a nature to make the size of the building a shelter and a bounty to the painter: whose works, totally unworthy of examination in detail, are thus reduced to the insignificance of mere patches of colour on the wall.—Who can see and regret this, without, for the contrast's sake, recollecting how Michael Angelo, even underneath the dome of St. Peter's, managed to vindicate the Painter, as separate from, though harmonizing with, the Architect—by his four Evangelists, which overawe and grasp the spectator from the very first moment when he crosses the threshold of that wondrous edifice!—To return, however, to St. Paul's at Rome.—The gilt ceiling of the nave is completed:—that of the side aisles, with sunk pannels and coffers elaborately carved, is in a state of forwardness. The wisdom of lavishing such magnificence in the head-quarters of pestilence is more than questionable; but should the next five-and-twenty years see the completion of the building, the edifice will be one unrivalled in impressiveness and beauty,—gaining, perhaps, in entire concord and harmony of form and colour what it has lost in time-hallowed associations,—and to the mere *dilettante* eye, which becomes surfeited with repetition upon repetition of the devices of Bramante, Borruomini, Bernini, &c. &c. most welcome as affording the relief of variety among the countless ecclesiastical edifices of Rome.—Thorough-going restorations, too, are going on in the fine Church of *Santa Maria sopra Minerva*. The vaults of the transepts and choir have been just newly covered with frescoes; the pillars of the nave are repaired, and in process of being polished.—The monuments and altars are re-arranged,—and the building is a hive of workmen. Would that art and zeal were one!—but the new frescoes, showy enough as is their entire effect, cannot compare with contemporary German paintings nor even with the French essays in the portals of St. Germain l'Auxerrois and the chapels in St. Méry at Paris; and their want of style, I fear, will be found all the more prominent and disappointing when the works of older art, in which this church is rich—the Christ of Michael Angelo and the altar-piece by Fra Beato among them—shall be again visible, on the completion of the repairs in progress."

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Autumn Music in Rome.

The musical ideas and experiences of my first hours in Rome have been vivid enough to make their own distinct impression, even in the midst of those crowding thoughts and intense sensations which a face-to-face knowledge of the City of the Cæsars and of the Popes, after years of distant intercourse and longing, must awaken in every one not utterly devoid of feeling or of memory.

They began in St. Peter's:—that treasury how inexhaustible in new suggestions for every new pilgrim who enters it, whatever be his errand!—In the highest of the high places of Roman Catholicism, it was natural for one who has attempted to speculate on the many kindred utterances of Poetry to be filled with thoughts of the most perfect expressions of Art in devotion which that wondrously-devised religion has called forth. But the current did not altogether flow harmoniously. With all Michael Angelo's grandeur of design around and above me, I could not but feel also the presence of too much light, and colour, and enrichment to make the temple harmonize with the remembrances of another great spirit, whose name, too, was one of the first to recur in St. Peter's; since though the *Capella Sistina*, strictly speaking, was the arena of Palestrina's labours, he is still as much the master-musician of the Great Church as Buonarotti is its master-architect.—The building, with its many-marbled aisles and gilded vaults and resplendent domes, solemn though it be in the magnificence of its glory, to me seemed hardly grave and simple enough for the "Missa Papæ Marcelli,"—rather calling up dreams of some countless company of lutes and harps, of "cymbals and the loud cymbals," of "trumpets, also, and shawms," such as were claimed by the Psalmist to accompany the human voice in thanksgiving,—some service of sound not less sacred because of its pomp, but less severe in spirit and primitive in form than the Masses and Motetts of the old Chapel-master. Remembering how certain monastically-ascetic canons of sacred music are still adhered to in the Pope's own chapel, I was asking myself why one art must needs be confined to the ancient forms which were devised ere Art was complete, whereas its brother, in the same temple, had been allowed to utter its worship (as it were) in a more modern language, without reference to Councils or traditions,—when the morning mass began in the *Capella del Coro* with male voices and a small organ. The chanting and recitation of the priests were well in tune and sonorous—"like the sound of many waters";—but alas, for the instrumental interludes,—and alas, for my pleas in mitigation of severe canon law! The tunes ground out of his *vielle* by the merriest of French street vagabonds are hardly slighter, sillier, sprightlier than these preludes. I had heard like sanctities in the church of Fra Beato's monastery at Florence; and, indeed, knew that the reverend gentlemen who go through song and service in Italy—unlike our Oakeleys and Ouseleys—prefer such merry doings to honest serious playing, Gregorian or Ambrosian:—but as coming in immediate response to my speculations, the twirls, *arpeggi* and *staccati* of the Papal organist jarred too suddenly and whimsically on every feeling to be ever forgotten as among the impressions of my first hour in St. Peter's.

Another odd contrast presented itself in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore. There I found myself at noon, entirely alone, save for one priest, who was muttering a mass at a side altar to one old lady kneeling in the strong sunlight. On a sudden, close above our heads, the sounds of a brilliant and powerful military band rang through the building, in a tune almost as pompous and dashing as Meyerbeer's or Halévy's stage Marches. The surprise was like something in a dream: so still was the church, and so entirely forsaken were its outward precincts,—no straggler, coming or going, to be seen.—But for its very mundane quality, that loud trumpet-flourish might have befitted some goblin legend of noonday, when, as all ghost-lovers know, strange things are sometimes to be heard and witnessed in deserted places. And, though not precisely a phantom warning or prophecy, strange this music was—a sign of strange days for old Rome,—coming, as it did, from the band of a French regiment, which had ascended into the *Loggia* of the Basilica for the sake of shelter from the hot, steamy sunshine. Since then, the sounds of Gallic drum and fife have never been out of my ears for half an hour; giving to the Eternal City a *ton de garnison* (little neutralized, I fear, by any grace or courtesy from those who order the band's proceedings,) as discordant, after its kind, as that organ-nonsense in St. Peter's.

The above impressions may be thought hardly worth recording by those who have never considered how intimately manners and music are connected:—my third experience of my day was, however, more shapely, and more according to critical form and order—I mean the first performance of an opera, by Verdi, in the Teatro Argentino, on the first night of the autumn season. This opera, everywhere else known, and published too, as 'Rigoletto,' must needs be baptized to suit Roman scrupulosity,—figuring there as 'Viscardello.' In what way the new insipid version of M. Victor Hugo's 'Le Roi s'amuse' is more innocent than the original stupid one, is a question to be solved only by the wisest old lady among the Cardinals. "There must be *una piccola formalità*," said the ancient custom-house officer who opened our trunks at the *Dogana*, leering sideways into his palm while he said it:—perhaps the Censorship manages, too, to pocket its little formality of a fee on all such sanitary occasions. But what's in a name?—The Teatro Argentino—like the Canobbiana at Milan, a well-sized theatre,—was crowded with a well-dressed audience, eager for the new opera.—On the whole the music was not badly given. Though the *prima donna*, Signora Evers, is below mediocrity, the baritone and principal character was Signor Coletti,—the tenor, Signor Beaucarde. Neither band nor chorus were objectionable; but never, surely, was opera more ignominiously received,—and never before did I dream how long, how loud, how expressive of the uttermost aversion, hissing could be! At the end of the second act, when the audience streamed out into the dark, dirty ante-room which does duty for the French *foyer*, wrath and gesticulation were as loud and as busy as if Chaos or Mazzini were "come again." The sight of so many fine classical faces absolutely flaming with passion was of itself worth coming to Rome to see. It is true, that in the third act Signor Beaucarde, by bawling on a passage ascending to B flat till his voice threatened to break on every note as he took it, drew forth from these enthusiastic people a storm of rapture as violent as the storm of their contempt had been:—but this was merely a passing tribute to the tenor's lungs. Roman virtue would have none of 'Viscardello.' Yet, the opera is by no means its maker's worst,—if only because it is one of Signor Verdi's least noisy operas. It is evident in more than one passage that he has acted in the spirit of the preface recently put forth by him, in which he announced his purpose of reforming the old operatic conventionalisms. That paper might be,—and possibly in large part is—the special pleading of one who feels that the gods have not given him melody,—but it is also hereby proved to have indicated honest purpose to make progress. There is some delicate and appropriate instrumentation in 'Rigoletto:'—in particular, the treatment of the orchestra in a night-duett, betwixt two men, pleased me. One or two of the vocal phrases have a boldness and a *brio* worth remembering,—and some essay has been made to introduce and to employ the chorus dramatically. But, as all contemners of melody and rhythm are virtually driven to confess, without melody and rhythm no opera can live; and Signor Verdi could not wholly escape from the necessities of *cantabile* and *cabaletta* in writing 'Rigoletto.' The drama opens with a ball scene; and a *galoppe*, a *Siciliana* and a minuet must needs be produced. But the staleness and common-place of every *motivo* is only equalled by its ugliness. I suspect threadbare graces might have passed;—it was the utter want of beauty that drove the Romans into such paroxysms of indignation.

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The scene was in every respect a curious one:—may it prove significant of the return to a better taste in others than in *il Maestro* Verdi!

Olympic.—During the Great Exhibition, the theatres, depending on the influx of visitors, have not abounded in novelties. Country cousins and foreign visitors have been treated with old dishes and "funeral baked meats" which with wearisome uniformity have "coldly furnished forth the tables." With the close of the great show, a new era necessarily commences. Two new pieces, accordingly, were produced at this theatre on Monday.

The first is a farce, stated to be not only "new" but "original," founded on an obsolete French law for the protection of unmarried females. A lady having three interviews with a gentleman was thereby entitled to claim him for her husband. This piece of law is confided to the illustration of Mr. Farren, in the character of an old French lawyer, a *M. Vraimont*:—a part which must rank as the very best of his late assumptions. A decided foe to matrimony, he does all he can to prevent his nephew *François* (Mr. Kinloch) from incurring its responsibilities; and to show his sincerity, pledges himself in the sum of 20,000 francs in case he should change his mind in regard to the sex. *Madame Vanderbushell* (Mrs. Alfred Phillips), the stepmother of *Agatha* (Miss Ellen Turner)—the young lady with whom the nephew is in love,—undertakes the conquest of the ancient woman-hater; and consulting him on the above point of law, so fascinates the old jurist as to secure the three assignations and interviews required. With the fortune thus obtained, François is enabled to pursue his own desires,—and the uncle, really smitten with the widow, willingly falls into the trap of his own setting. One character, *Jonas*, clerk to the lawyer, performed by Mr. Shalders, acquires in the hands of this humorous actor great importance, and tended much to the success of the little drama.

The second piece, produced on the same evening, is an extravaganza founded on the opera of 'Azaël,' and called after the same name with a sub-title, 'The Prodigal in London.' Here we meet again with Mr. Shalders,—as *Reuben*, a venerable "Jew Gipsy." Mr. Compton plays *Azaël*; who speculates on the perilous transit from Norwood to London, and obtains at last the "slow consent" of his sire to the journey. We next see him "galloping and gallopading" at Vauxhall,—and miss him in "the dark walk," to meet him again in a masquerade as a Nepaulese prince. The Crystal Palace is made to substitute the "Temple of Ices," with an immense procession of offerings to it; and then we have the Egyptian casino, with a "grand fire-fly polka,"—closed with "the Deserts of Hampstead," and a series of visions, which lead to the reformation of Azaël.—The subject is one which indisposes the mind to burlesque; and we did not therefore feel as much pleased with the clever songs and parodies interspersed through the scenes as we otherwise might. The action is perhaps too rapid,—scarcely leaving time for the jests to take fire. But the accessories are costly; and as a spectacle the piece will probably be successful.

Haymarket.—On Saturday last Mr. Webster delivered the usual valedictory address for the season:—in which he attributed the recent success of his theatre to that of the Crystal Palace. Since the opening of that edifice, he said, 160,000 persons had paid to visit the lesser exhibition. The house has been since re-opened for a few nights:—Monday being devoted to the benefit of Mr. Frederick Webster, and the *début* of a new tragedian, his pupil. Mr. William Morgan, the gentleman in question, has won some reputation in the provinces; and in the character of *Huon*, in Mr. Knowles's play of 'Love,' he manifested an intelligent appreciation of the text and an aptitude for impersonation at once graceful and effective. His voice, however, does not appear calculated for a large arena. Miss Reynolds, who continually surprises us with fresh evidences of talent, showed ability to reach a higher walk than she has yet arrived at in her performance of the part of *The Countess*; and Miss Cooper as *Catherine* played effectively.

Sadler's Wells.—Miss Fanny Vining made her first appearance at this theatre on Friday week. She performed the heroine of Mr. Knowles's 'Wife,'—and received much applause.

Musical and Dramatic Gossip.—Six out of the ten members forming the musical jury (Class X *a*)—these being Sir H. R. Bishop, Sir G. Smart, Dr. Schafhäutl, the Chevalier Neukomm, Messrs. W. S. Bennett and Potter—have published a protest against the decision of the Council of Chairmen in the matter of the pianofortes of the Messrs. Broadwood. The jury had awarded to the house in question the great medal, as "improvers of the pianoforte":—but, to quote the protest,—

"The Council of Chairmen, however (as it has been generally reported), rejected the award thus doubly confirmed, and in seeking for the grounds of this rejection, the jurors of Class X *a*, who transmit these papers, are compelled to state it as their opinion, that undue weight must have been attributed to mis-statements made at the meeting of the group, in the presence of many of the chairmen, affecting Messrs. Broadwood's claim as improvers of the pianoforte. The mis-statements were, upon remonstrance, withdrawn; but it is a lamentable fact, that the injurious effect of such statements positively put forth can seldom be completely effaced by a retractation."

The jurymen in question therefore memorialize H.R.H. the Prince Albert and the Royal Commissioners to reverse this reversal of their verdict.—It may be as well to add, in mentioning a matter so largely discussed in the London musical circles, that we cannot pretend to open so vexed and delicate a question, still less to decide on the justice or injustice of the proceeding.

On Saturday last the musical year of 1850-1 may be said to have wholly terminated by the closing of Her Majesty's Theatre. That of 1851-2 will be commenced in two or three weeks by the Concerts at St. Martin's and Exeter Halls. This year, then, there has been no "flat" season in London. The coming twelvemonth may, in the natural course of events, be remarkable for nothing besides flatness in art, unless managers prove singularly alert and judicious,—and not as managers are too apt to show themselves—that is, mere livers "from hand to mouth," incapable alike to cope with adversity or to turn prosperity to good account. In spite, however, of the brilliancy of the long-protracted opera-spring, the *Morning Post* acquaints the public that it has been one of loss to Mr. Lumley,—and, looking forward to future compensations, repeats the promise already so often made of the opera which is to be composed expressly for *Her Majesty's Theatre*, by M. Meyerbeer, and to be represented there next year, conducted by the *maestro* in person. This, by the way, is curious in the face of the announcements going the round of the French papers, which state that M. Meyerbeer, who is seriously out of health, has been prescribed perfect repose for a considerable period. Let those who will reconcile such contradictions. Meanwhile, Mr. Lumley has moved his forces to Paris, there to commence his campaign for the season. By his *programme*, it appears that Madame Sontag and Mr. Reeves do not form part of his company; but that Mdlle. Corbari and Signor Guasco do,—the weight of *prima donna*ship being thus laid on Madame Barbieri-Nini and Mdlle. Cruvelli. The later operas by Signor Verdi are promised (we suppose among others his 'Macbeth,' for the Italian Lady, who is said therein to have a part of predilection);—also operas of the earlier repertory, by Sarti, Paisiello, &c. &c. &c., which now-a-days no one can sing, which few opera-goers desire to hear, and which accordingly rest in the list of stock-promises—not performances. Possibly, however, Herr Hiller's nomination may give to the management something of a retrospective direction. This would at all events make the Parisian season one of interest to the connoisseur.

Meanwhile, our neighbours are flocking to the *Opéra Comique*, to enjoy the revival of Méhul's 'Joseph,'—a work which, whether dramatically or musically considered, we should have thought hardly calculated now to attract a theatrical audience. Beautiful as Méhul's music is, in that sound and symmetrical style of composition which belongs to a summer period of Art, its sweetness is still not clear of monotony,—nor its tenderness of that *larmoyante* grace in which there appears to English apprehensions more of sentimentality than of true feeling. Not grave and dignified enough to enter within the boundaries of Oratorio, 'Joseph' can still be hardly ranged among Operas.—But to entertainments of mixed quality the French have been always less averse than ourselves:—witness the 'Athalie' of Racine, and the number of meaner Biblical dramas, melo-dramas, *ballets*, (everything save comedies and vaudevilles), which have perpetually been produced on their Parisian stages; and this at periods when their political gloom has been the deepest or their social gaiety the most frivolous.—This characteristic nationality allowed for, the revival of Méhul's masterpiece is further explained, by the conscientiousness and taste (if not precisely genius) of the composer. A new tenor, M. Delaunay-Ricquier, has appeared in the part of the hero.—M. Couderc, too, is impassioned and dramatic in the part of *Simeon*,—which was written for Gavandan; in his day so great an actor as to be called the Talma of the *Opéra Comique*.—'La Fille du Régiment' has been also revived at the *Opéra Comique*:—that pretty work, however, seems fated not to be successful at its birthplace. Madame Ugalde has failed to please as its heroine; and is commented on as singing with diminished powers. Her voice, it is true, may be weaker than it was; but having never been able to understand Parisian raptures in her praise, it is, perhaps, only charitable to ascribe a tone or two of the changed strain to Parisian caprice.

The third opera-house in Paris has been inaugurated by the production of a new work by M. Boisselot, entitled 'Mosquita'; which is spoken of as successful.—M. Depassio, the young bass whose magnificent voice has been more than once mentioned in the *Athenæum*, has been tried at the *Grand Opéra* in the repertory of M. Levasseur;—but it may be gathered that musical cultivation and general accomplishment have not seconded Nature as diligently as might have been desired, and that he cannot be counted on as an artist who is to fulfil duties so important as those which have been calculated on.

The fancy and hope so often expressed in the *Athenæum*, that the throne of Verdi is tottering in Italy, receives some confirmation from the *programme* of the coming opera-season at Naples. This promises merely the composer's 'Nabucco.' The list of other operas runs as follows:—three entirely new works by Battista, Moccuzza (a name unfamiliar to us), and Pacini,—the last-named composer's 'Medea' and 'Fidanzata Corsa,'—Rossini's 'Otello' and 'Semiramide,'—Donizetti's 'Lucia' and 'Maria Padilla,'—Bellini's 'Norma,'—Mercadante's 'Giuramento' and 'Gli Orazj,'—and Mayer's 'Corn.'—Signor di Giosa, concerning whom we have translated words of good promise from the foreign papers, seems to have "sunk in the ground," since no trace of himself or of his music, save a few published airs from a very early opera, was to be found a fortnight ago either in Milan or in Rome. The principal singers at Naples are to be:—*soprani*, Signora Cortesi and Signora Bendazzi,—*contralto*, Signora Borghi-Mamo,—*tenori*, Signori Roppa, Mazzoleno, Liverani,—*baritone*, Signor de Bassini,—*basso*, Signor Arati. The subscription, for eighty nights, is to be divided betwixt the two theatres San Carlo and Fondo. The principal dancer in the ballets—of which also the *programme* is most liberal—is to be Signora Ferraris.

On looking over the *memoranda* concerning foreign organs given in Hamilton's 'Catechism,' with express reference to the great organ at Weingarten [*ante*, p. 1004], we find an anecdote worth adding to the sketch given a week or two since. It is said that the Benedictine Monks were so entirely satisfied with Herr Gabler's work, as to have presented him with 6,666 florins—otherwise, a florin for every pipe—in addition to the sum which they had contracted to pay him.

Among the foreign notices in the *Gazette Musicale* is one from Weimar, announcing that M. Liszt is about to superintend the production of a

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French musical journal. Such a project, we happen to know, has been long entertained by him; and his elegance and dexterity in pleading favourite causes, no less than his subtlety and finish in discrimination, ought to give to such a work what no musical journal has hitherto possessed—literary distinction. A pamphlet by M. Liszt, in praise more earnest than is well justified of Herr Wagner, taking that stage composer's 'Lohengrin' for text, has recently been published at Leipsic.

MISCELLANEA

The Queen's University in Ireland.—The bye-laws and regulations of the Queen's University have been prepared, and have received the sanction of the executive. The meetings are to be held in Dublin Castle until further orders; and the University, which is a corporation, may acquire property not exceeding 10,000*l.* a-year. The Chancellor (the Lord Lieutenant) is to preside over its meetings, and authenticate its acts. The following are the most material of the bye-laws and regulations.—Meetings of the Senate shall be convened by the secretary or acting secretary on the authority of the Chancellor, or, in his absence, of the Vice-Chancellor, or of the chairman of a meeting of the Senate, elected as provided in the charter. There shall be stated meetings on the 7th of January and 20th of June in each year, or on the following day when either of these days shall fall on a Sunday. Examiners are expected to attend the public meeting of the Senate. Each candidate is required to fill up, with his own hand, a certificate of his name, birth-place, age, and qualifications. All certificates of candidates to be sent to the secretary fourteen days before examination. The Senate will receive certificates of medical education for two-thirds of the required courses from the Professors of Universities and chartered bodies, and from schools and hospitals which have sought for and obtained the recognition of the Senate; but it is essential that one-third at least of the medical lectures prescribed in the course for the degree of M.D. be attended in some one of the Queen's Colleges. In no case shall any member of the Senate or any Vice-President of a College (liable to be called upon to fulfil the duties of a member) be elected an examiner. Examinations shall be by printed papers. Each examiner shall be present during the whole time that the candidates are engaged in writing answers to the papers set by him; but, if a paper be set by more than one examiner, the presence of one examiner shall be deemed sufficient. If, from unavoidable necessity, any examiner be unable to attend, the secretary shall be present. Every member of the Senate shall have the right of being present during examinations, but only the examiner specially appointed to conduct examinations shall have the right to put questions. No candidates shall be present except those under examination. The examiners shall report to the Senate the result of their examination; and shall deliver in at the same time, in sealed packets, the answers to the examination papers of the classes which they have severally examined. For this year the fee on the degree of M.D. has been fixed at 5*l.*, and the fee on the diploma of agriculture at 2*l.* Fees on other degrees are not yet settled. The degrees are not subject to stamp-duty.—*Times.*

The Improvement of Washington.—The improvement of Washington is placed under the direction of Mr. Downing; whose plans for turning the wide waste extending from the Capitol grounds to the Potomac into a magnificent public park were adopted by the President. Besides this larger work, Mr. Downing has plans for the improvement of Lafayette and Franklin Squares:—which are now in process of being converted into the finest pleasure grounds for the enjoyment of our citizens. In the centre of Lafayette Square will be placed Mr. Mills's colossal equestrian statue of General Jackson, which will be finished about the 1st of January.—*Builder.*

To Correspondents.—An Old Subscriber—Rev. Mr. H.—J. L.—G. G.—Esse quam videri—J. M. L.—C. H.—P. F. M.—P. C. H.—received.

T. R.—This Correspondent is thanked; but the subject has been already discussed in the columns of the *Athenæum.*

Erratum.—New College, St. John's Wood.—The architect of this fine edifice is Mr. *Emmett*,—not "Gunnett," as his name is misprinted in our number of last week, p. 1072, col. 3, l. 34.

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40		1,000	31 10 0	17 6 8
50		1,000	42 15 0	22 10 6
60		1,000	66 11 6	36 12 0

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Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
*1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	22 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	628 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

* EXAMPLE.—At the commencement of the year 1841, a person aged thirty took out a Policy for 1,000l., the annual payment for which is 24l. 1s. 8d.; in 1847 he had paid in premiums 168l. 11s. 8d.; but the profits being 2¼ per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is 22l. 10s. per annum for each 1,000l.) he had 157l. 10s. added to the Policy, almost as much as the premiums paid.

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Age when Assured.	Sum Assured.	Premiums Paid.		Bonus added.	Per-centage on Premiums Paid.
		Number.	Amount.		
15	£3000	6	£115 0 0	£104 10 0	£32 6 6
25	5000	7	775 16 8	347 12 4	44 16 3
35	2500	6	491 17 8	183 18 0	42 11 8
45	2000	6	464 0 0	172 8 7	37 2 10

Annual Premium required for the Assurance of £100 for the whole term of life:—

Age.	Without Profits.	With Profits.	Age.	Without Profits.	With Profits.
15	£1 11 0	£1 15 0	40	£2 18 10	£3 6 5
20	1 13 10	1 19 3	50	4 0 9	4 10 7
30	2 4 6	2 10 4	60	6 1 0	6 7 4

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1851.

REVIEWS

Scinde; or, the Unhappy Valley. By Lieut. R. F. Burton, Bombay Army. 2 vols. Bentley.

Sindh; and the Races that inhabit the Valley of the Indus. By Lieut. R. F. Burton. Allen.

Lieut. Burton is already known to our readers [see *ante*, p. 423] as the writer of what may be called, for want of a better phrase, a "smart" book on Goa and the Blue Mountains. With many faults both of taste and of composition, it was impossible to withhold from his striking account of Goa and of the coasts of Western India high praise. The volume was full of evidences of ability and acute powers of observation on the part of its author. The first of the works now before us appears to be intended to accomplish for the province of Scinde the same service which Mr. Burton's former publication may be supposed to have rendered, to some extent, to the old Portuguese settlement and to the Indian Cheltenham which during the last thirty years has sprung up at Ootacamund. The book on Goa was evidently intended by its author to contain as much vivacity, pleasantry and slang—as many anecdotes and stories, and as much good sense and *bonâ fide* information—as would render it acceptable more or less in a variety of circles. The two volumes on Scinde which now make their appearance are written on the same plan; and on the whole we think that Mr. Burton has improved in his knack of "fast" writing. Some of his pages, however, are still at variance with the rules of good taste. The slang phrases are vulgar, without being witty,—and the attempts at drollery are often failures. These are defects which every reader of the volumes will regret; for they impair very much the pleasure that arises from the perusal of a rapid, vigorous and amusing sketch of the scenery and people of a remote and interesting part of our Eastern empire.

Mr. Burton was, it appears, stationed for five years in Scinde with his regiment:—and it is due to him to say, that he has set a good example to his fellow-subalterns by pursuing so diligently his inquiries into the language, literature and customs of the native population by which he was surrounded. We are far from accepting all his doctrines on questions of Eastern policy,—especially as regards the treatment of natives; but we are sensible of the value of the additional evidence which he has brought forward on many important questions. For a young man, he seems to have adopted some very extreme opinions: and it is perhaps not too much to say that the fault from which he has most to fear, not only as an author but as an Indian officer, is, a disregard of those well-established rules of moderation which no one can transgress with impunity.

One of Mr. Burton's first resting-places in Scinde was, of course, Kurrachee—the military capital of the province; and as it suits his fancy to address all his chapters to "Mr. Bull," a personage whom he treats in a very jocose and familiar manner—we have the following smart sketch of Kurrachee drawn up for Mr. Bull's information.—

"Your first night in Scinde, Mr. Bull—how did you like it? I had your cauch placed in the verandah—screened, however, from the sea-breeze, which is said to be dangerous—because you never could have endured the 100° heat of an inner room, and I now come to awake you at four A.M., and take you to constitutionalise a little before the sun appears. The great secret of health in this part of the East lies, I believe, in the daily habit of a long walk, not a lazy canter, in the cool of the morning. We can now, if you please, perambulate the camp, and devote the evening and the morrow to a few excursions in the neighbourhood. * * Kurrachee is the head-quarters of the local government, and the great station for European regiments. The cantonment stands on a slope, which rises towards the east into a little chain of rocky hills. The foundation is a hard, dry crust of sand, gravel, and silt, thinly spread over beds of stone and pebbles. As in all camps, there is a huge dirty bazaar, full of shopkeepers and servants, soldiers and sepoys, ladies of no virtue to speak of, naked children and yelping curs—a scene strictly in the Eastern low life style. There are large roomy barracks, oblong, single-storied buildings, dressed with mathematical precision to the front, and flanked by equally precise roads, two dozen different guards scattered in all directions, immense commissariat stores, a Protestant church, with very little outward show, a Roman Catholic chapel, built palpably for effect, two or three burial-grounds, a species of barn intended for the accommodation of the Drama, many mess-houses, an iceless receptacle for Wenham Lake ice, a library without books, a school-room in which Indo-British children receive the elements of education, and sundry private buildings where public duties are performed. The streets, or rather roads, are level, dusty thoroughfares, averaging fifty yards in breadth, and the houses are separated by tall milk bush hedges, enclosing 'compounds,' so called, I presume, because the thing is a mixture of the garden and the court-yard. Each domicile speaks plainly enough for its tenant. Here the huge white stuccoed pile, with tall arches and bright chiks between, towering above a screen of Euphorbia, which takes the labour of a dozen men to water it, denotes the Commissariat or the Staff Officer. There the small, neat building, with carefully curtained windows, a carriage under the shed that adjoins it, comparatively clean outhouses, and an apology for a garden kept up in the face of many difficulties, points out the married captain or field-officer. A little beyond it, another bungalow, jealously trellised round with bamboo-work, a gaudy palanquin lying near the dirty huts, and two or three jaunty, debauched looking 'darkies,' dressed in the height of black dandyism, show manifest traces of the 'Booboo,' (*i. e.* a lady). Beyond it you remark a long, low range of stained and dilapidated building, under whose narrow verandah, with the rough wooden posts, still sleep three or four young gentlemen, in spite of the glistering of morning, the yelping of a dozen terriers, and the squabbling of as many Pariah servants, each exhorting his neighbour to do *his* work: that is a Castle of Indolence in which several subalterns in one of her Majesty's corps chum together, for the greater facility of spending days. Again, you observe a mean-looking bungalow, with appended kennels and stables, that are by far the best part of the house: the fine head of an Arab peeping out of his loose box is the only sign of life about the place—that is a Duck 'Subaltern Hall.' Both these establishments are apparently in a state of admirable disorder: the fences are broken down by being leapt over, the garden destroyed by being galloped over, the walls pitted with the pellet-bow, and near each a goodly heap of dirty 'Marines,' who have travelled from the generous vineyards of 'the South' to do their duty on the parched plains of Scinde, is piled close by shattered six-dozen chests, old torn fly-tents, legless chairs, and other pieces of furniture which have suffered in the wars within. The few pretentious erections, built in no earthly style of architecture, which puzzle you as to their intentions, are the 'follies' of Anglo-Indian clerks and writers, a race of men which hugely delights in converting rupees to unlovely masses of brick and mortar. At first glance, your eye detects the humble dwellings of the primitive colonists, sheds of 'wattle and dab,' in the form of a single piled tent, for the most part now degraded into stables or servants' offices. They form remarkable contrasts with the double-storied houses, the thickly stuccoed roofs, made to be promenaded upon, and the extensive ranges of rooms, which have sprung up during the last ten years, when men could calculate upon being stationary for a while in the 'station' of Kurrachee. Except in a few instances, all the tenements are bungalows, parallelograms of unlovely regularity, with walls of sun-dried brick, doubly white-washed to promote cleanliness and glare, sometimes flat above, more often sloping with red and blue tiles, with eaves pulled out, and prevented from falling by clumsy columns of brick. Each has its dependent line of dirty, dingy, 'cook-houses,' dens for the servants, and other conveniences thrown far enough off to temper the pungency of the screamings and the steams that escape through the doorless doorways. Crossing the camp in a northward direction towards the Government Gardens, we pass through, you observe the heart of the settlement. Everything at this hour looks and sounds intensely military. Yonder, on the regimental parade-ground, a plump of glittering bayonets is wheeling and turning about in close column; a little way in front of us a troop of horse artillery winds slowly along the road towards the Champ de Mars; in the square on our right are some hundred 'Johnny Raws' under the Adjutant's watchful eye, in every grade of recruitism, from the rigid miseries of the goose-step, to the last touch of the sword exercise; and on the left a native corps, with band playing and colours flying, returns from drill to their lines and breakfasts."

There are several other descriptions equally good which might be quoted; and if all the stories had not been so long, we should have attempted to find space for one of them. The account of the Alligator Ride in the first volume, for example, is marvellously entertaining and incredible. It will be better, however, if we allow Mr. Burton to state his views on Eastern politeness.—

"Before we start from Hyderabad, I must prepare you, my good companion, by a short lecture upon the manners of the natives, for mixing with them a little more familiarly than we have done hitherto. As everything in the world has not yet been written about, printed, and published, in the East, we have nothing like 'Hints on Etiquette, by a Lady of Fashion,' or 'Manuel de la Politesse,' to learn from. You must not, however, conclude that ceremony in the East is an unimportant study. Very much the contrary. The first thing Oriental people ask about you, whatever you may be, soldier, sailor, or civilian, is, 'does he speak our words?' If the answer be 'no,' then you are a *haiwan*, a brute beast,—or a *jangali*, a savage. If it be a qualified 'yes, he can, but he won't,' then, by the rule of Omne ignotum, &c., are you a real magnifico. To shuffle over this difficulty in your case, as you will not have time to learn Scindee, I must represent you to be a Turk or Tartar, or some such outlandish animal, and declare that you are very learned in Ottoman literature—for which, by the by, may I be pardoned! Whenever anything is said to you, you will be pleased to stroke your beard gravely, with the right hand, for goodness' sake! frown a little, roll your head much with a heavy ferocious roll, and ejaculate syllable by syllable, Alhamdu l'illah, 'Praise to the Lord,'—*apropos de rien*. When a man shows you anything admirable, such as his horse, or his son, you will perform the same pantomime, and change your words to Mashallah, or 'What the Lord pleases,' (subaudi, 'be done'): mind, if you do not, and if any accident happen to the thing praised, your commendation will be considered the cause of it. Whatever action you undertake, such as rising from your seat or sitting down, calling for your pipe or dismissing its bearer, beginning or ending dinner, in fact, on all active occasions, you must not forget to pronounce Bismillah, 'In the name of the Lord,' with as much pomposity as you can infuse into your utterance. By this means you will be considered a grave and reverend personage; *au reste*, by moving your head much and slowly, by looking dully wise, seldom smiling, and above all things by strictly following the Bishop of Bristol's 'First Rule of Conversation'—Silence—you will do remarkably well for a stranger. The next question our Oriental puts concerning you is, 'does he know *adab*, or politeness?' here equivalent to ceremonial. You would scarcely believe how much these few words involve. It is, I believe, almost always in the power of a European diplomatist sent on a mission to an Eastern court, by mere manner to effect or to fail in the

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object which his government desires. Manners, literally understood, still make the man here. Sir John Malcolm well understood this when as Elchi—ambassador—to Teheran, he drilled his *corps diplomatique* to their salaams as carefully and regularly as a manager his *corps de ballet*. Orientals do not dislike our English manners, our brusquerie, our roughness, if it may be called so; but to please them, indeed not to offend them in deadly guise, it must be gentlemanly brusquerie, naïvely and genuine, *sans malice et sans arrière pensée*; it must be 'well-placed,' not the result of ignorance, and not 'anti-pathetic.' Otherwise it is a dead failure, and the consequences of such failures in the diplomatic field extend far. For instance, put a man in the most formal, haughty, and vain-glorious court in the world a gentleman whom they were accustomed to consider the Bolmer-General of the Embassy. The result is, that the sovereign considers himself slighted, and his ministers and courtiers are not slow to show it. The plenipotentiary, mortally offended, offends all by retorting with British bluntness and slights. He is repaid in kind; he repays in kind; and so on till the interests of his country are irretrievably ruined, and the goodwill of the foreign state is not only alienated, but transferred to a rival power. Another gentleman, brave, patriotic and high-principled, but ignorant, violent, and strong-headed, is sent to settle certain nice points with the most savage, revengeful old chieftain that ever sewed up subject in a raw cow's hide. What is the consequence? Before he has spent a week at the court he seats himself in full Durbar with the soles of his feet diametrically opposite Majesty's face—a position as appropriate to the occasion as if he had, at a levee, presented his back to his own sovereign—he engaged publicly in a furious polemical discussion, and capped the whole by grossly insulting and abusing, in the presence of the prince and his nobles, a minister who, although decidedly the 'most accomplished scoundrel in Central Asia,' was nevertheless a prime favourite with his own monarch. That envoy never returned to England. Even in our humble capacity of travellers, Mr. John Bull, we must, if we wish to be comfortable, attend a little to what we ought to do and to what we ought not to do in society. If we would not be thought 'peculiar'—Orientals hate that almost as much as Englishmen—we must not 'walk the quarter-deck,' and act every one around us ejaculating—'Wonderful are the works of Allah! Behold! That Frank is trudging about when he can, if he pleases, sit still!' We must not gesticulate at all when conversing, otherwise we shall see a look of apprehension on every countenance, and hear each man asking his neighbour, whether we be low fellows, or labouring under a temporary aberration of intellect, or drunk. Standing up, we must not cross our arms over our chests—in Europe this is a *la Napoléon*, in the East it is the posture of a slave. When walking it is advisable to place one hand, not both, upon the hip; or we may carry a five-feet-long ebony staff shod with ivory: this patriarchal affair provokes respect; a switch or a horsewhip would induce the query—'Are they keepers of dogs?' Sitting down, Turkish or tailor fashion—the most easy and enduring attitude—we must be careful to remain quiet for a decent space of time; if we move about uneasily every ten minutes, we shall not fail to hear the observation—'Wallah! They have no dignity!' And if musically inclined, we may hum a little in a low voice, and with a solemn manner. We must, however, avoid the main error of a great traveller—whistling. Our native friends have no name for the offensive practice in their dialect, and the greater part of them being superstitious would probably consider it the peculiar modulation of the voice in which a white-faced man is in the habit of conversing with Sathanas."

The second book at the head of this article may be described as a translation into sober and official language of all the substantial portions of the lively two volumes which we have just noticed. It appears that the East India Company, in pursuance of the wise liberality that in such matters has generally distinguished them, gave every assistance and encouragement to Mr. Burton to prepare for the information of the directors a memoir on the present condition of Scinde,—and the volume now laid before the public is the result. The treatise will be looked into by a very small number of persons compared with those who will be induced to read the sketches. It is a solid and acceptable addition to our Indian literature; and it must be regarded as perhaps the most complete account which has yet appeared of the Indus valley. The general conclusions at which Mr. Burton has arrived with reference to Scinde, he expresses as follows.—

"Sindh, still a new country to us, is and will be an important portion of our Eastern Empire, for two reasons. In the first place, it may be made the common commercial depôt of Central Asia; and secondly, it is in an advanced line of posts thrown out to protect India from her natural enemies, the turbulent, warlike and powerful trans-Indine nations. The province is at present in an impoverished condition, requiring a large amount of expenditure, which future years may reimburse to us. It wants population to cultivate the land, and money to enable the agriculturist to thrive. With respect to the people, one main difficulty appears to be that of adjusting the balance between two rival races. Under a rule of foreigners, the Moslem and Hindoo will ever be antagonists; and to judge from experience, the former must succumb to the superior craftiness and stricter combination of the latter. To maintain as much as possible the equality of these great divisions, is to preserve our ascendancy. The natives of Sindh complain at present of the depressed state of the country, and the want of facility for education; the former is a grievance, not an evil; the latter should be remedied as soon as possible. As we effect with one, all that a native Prince can do with his officials, a large body of men have been temporarily thrown upon their own resources. This of course causes discontent. The substantial Jagardar, or country gentleman, now complains that he can neither pay nor presents from us; that he is disabled by poverty from procuring labourers for his estate, and that his younger brothers and children, who formerly supported themselves by the sword or the pen, are become mere burdens to him. Our regular troops complain that they cannot find employment, and that when employed their emoluments are comparatively trifling. Those who live by commerce declare that as demand decreases their profits increases are ruined, and the wholesale shrinks rapidly into the retail trade. The Ryots complain of scarcity of money and the impossibility of procuring loans from Shroffs and Banyans. But these are the necessary miseries of a transition state. Our policy is based upon the sound principle, that agriculture and commerce are the only sources of wealth to a country which does not, like Mexico and Southern India, spontaneously produce the material or the means of riches. The soldier and writer will become, as cultivator and merchant, as many labourers in the field of prosperity, instead of being what they are under native rule—mere channels down which the stream of pay flows. As regards education, we have hitherto been somewhat inactive. The native universities and colleges have been allowed to fall to ruin, and we have not substituted others in their stead. The Sindhis require vernacular works to be prepared for them, grammars, vocabularies, and translations from our popular school books. That their wants will be eventually ministered to, there is no doubt; the sooner, however we extend the helping hand to moral progress the better. The language popularly called the Sindhi is an ancient, copious, grammatical, and to a certain extent, a cultivated dialect. As it is universally understood throughout the province, it must be considered more suitable for official correspondence and the transaction of public business than the Persian now in use. Nothing can be so well adapted practically to facilitate fraud and injustice, as the employment of two languages, one of them understood only by the educated classes. The last point to be noticed with respect to the Sindhi dialect is, that it contains some old and popular compositions which should be collected and preserved as a standard of language, and as an aid to the European scholar. We are not likely to derive much amusement or improvement from the literary effusions of a semi-barbarous race, but as means of power they are valuable weapons in our hands. The Russian, the craftiest, if not the most successful of Oriental politicians, here long since printed and translated the vernacular works of the Affghans; we, on the contrary, scarcely took the trouble to ascertain the nature of a tongue spoken throughout a country with which we have had intimate relations for the last twenty, and where we reigned masters during five years."

As another illustration of the absurd confusion which at present prevails in the orthography of Indian proper names, we must not omit to point out that the word Scinde is spelt by Mr. Burton in two different ways on the title-pages of the two works before us. These works are published at the same time, are written by the same author, and treat of the same country; yet in one of them describes that country as "Scinde," and the other as "Sindh." Surely this is a state of things which might be avoided by adhering to the simple rule that we have on former occasions recommended,—namely, by respecting and continuing that particular mode of spelling an Indian proper name which has already become familiar to English readers. Of Mr. Burton we dare say we shall hear again:—and doubtless to his advantage.

The Whale. By Herman Melville, Author of 'Typee,' &c. &c. 3 vols. Bentley.

THIS is an ill-compounded mixture of romance and matter-of-fact. The idea of a connected and collected story has obviously visited and abandoned its writer again and again in the course of composition. The style of his work is in places disfigured by mad (rather than bad) English; and its catastrophe is hastily, weakly, and obscurely managed. The second title—'Moby Dick'—is the name given to a particular sperm whale, or white sea monster, more malignant and diabolical even than the sperm whale in general is known to be. This ocean fiend is invested with especial horrors for our ship's crew;—because, once upon a time, a conflict with him cost their Captain a limb. Captain Ahab had an ivory leg made,—took an oath of retribution,—grew crazy,—lashed himself up into a purpose of cruising in quest of his adversary,—and bound all who sailed with him to stand by him in his wrath. With this cheerful Captain, on such a wise and Christian voyage of discovery, went to sea Ishmael, the imaginary writer of this narrative.

Frantic though such an invention seems to be, it might possibly have been accepted as the motive and purpose of an *extravaganza* had its author been consistent with himself. Nay, in such a terrible cause—when Krakens and Typhoons and the wonders of Mid-Ocean, &c. &c. were the topics and toys to be arranged and manœuvred—we might have stretched a point in admission of electrical verbs and adjectives as hoarse as the hurricane. There is a time for everything in imaginative literature;—and, according to its order, a place—for rant as well as for reserve; but the rant must be good, honest, shameless rant, without the air or misgiving. The voice of "the storm wind Euroclydon" must not be interrupted by the facts of Scoresby and the figures of Cocker. Ravings and scraps of useful knowledge flung together salad-wise make a dish in which there may be much surprise, but in which there is little savour. The real secret of this patchiness in the present case is disclosed in Mr. Melville's appendix; which contains such an assortment of curious quotations as Southey might have wrought up into a whale-chapter for 'The Doctor,'—suggesting the idea that a substantial work on the subject may have been originally contemplated. Either Mr. Melville's purpose must have changed, or his power must have fallen short. The result

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is, at all events, a most provoking book,—neither so utterly extravagant as to be entirely comfortable, nor so instructively complete as to take place among documents on the subject of the Great Fish, his capabilities, his home and his capture. Our author must be henceforth numbered in the company of the incorrigibles who occasionally tantalize us with indications of genius, while they constantly summon us to endure monstrosities, carelessnesses, and other such harassing manifestations of bad taste as daring or disordered ingenuity can devise.

The opening of this wild book contains some graphic descriptions of a dreariness such as we do not remember to have met with before in marine literature. Sick of shore, Ishmael, the narrator, resolves to go to sea in a whaler; and on his way to Nantucket with that object, he is detained at New Bedford. The following passage will give gentlemen who live at home—as the song says—a new idea of taking their ease in their inn.—

"Having a night, a day, and still another night following, before me in New Bedford, ere I could embark for my destined port, it became a matter of concernment where I was to eat and sleep meanwhile. It was a very dubious-looking, nay, a very dark and dismal night, bitingly cold and cheerless. I knew no one in the place. With anxious grapnels I had sounded my pocket, and only brought up a few pieces of silver. 'So, wherever you go, Ishmael,' said I to myself, as I stood in the middle of a dreary street shouldering my bag, and comparing the gloom towards the north with the darkness towards the south,—'wherever in your wisdom you may conclude to lodge for the night, my dear Ishmael, be sure to inquire the price, and don't be too particular.' With halting steps I paced the streets, and passed the sign of 'The Crossed Harpoons,'—but it looked too expensive and jolly there. Further on, from the bright-red windows of the 'Sword-Fish Inn,' there came such fervent rays, that it seemed to have melted the packed snow and ice from before the house; for everywhere else the congealed frost lay ten inches thick in a hard, asphaltic pavement,—rather weary for me, when I struck my foot against the flinty projections, because from hard, remorseless service the soles of my boots were in a most miserable plight. 'Too expensive and jolly, again,' thought I, pausing one moment to watch the broad glare in the street, and hear the sound of the tinkling glasses within. 'But go on, Ishmael,' said I at last, 'don't you hear? get away from before the door; your patched boots are stopping the way.' So on I went. I now by instinct followed the streets that took me waterward, for there, doubtless, were the cheapest, if not the cheeriest inns. Such dreary streets! blocks of blackness—not houses—on either hand, and here and there a candle, like a candle moving about in a tomb. At this hour of the night, of the last day of the week, that quarter of the town proved all but deserted. But presently I came to a smoky light proceeding from a low, wide building, the door of which stood invitingly open. It had a careless look, as if it were meant for the uses of the public; so, entering, the first thing I did was to stumble over an ash-box in the porch. * * I picked myself up, and hearing a loud voice within, pushed on, and opened a second, interior door. It seemed the great Black Parliament sitting in Tophet. A hundred black faces turned round in their rows to peer; and beyond, a black Angel of Doom was beating a book in a pulpit. It was a negro church; and the preacher's text was about the blackness of darkness, and the weeping and wailing and teeth-gnashing there. * * Moving on, I at last came to a dim sort of out-hanging light, not far from the docks, and heard a forlorn creaking in the air; and looking up, saw a swinging sign over the door, with a white painting upon it, faintly representing a tall straight jet of misty spray, and these words underneath—'The Spouter-Inn:—Peter Coffin.' * * As the light looked so dim, and the place, for the time, looked quiet enough, and the dilapidated little wooden house itself looked as if it might have been carted here from the ruins of some burnt district, and as the swinging sign had a poverty-stricken sort of creak to it, I thought that here was the very spot for cheap lodgings, and the best of pea coffee. It was a queer sort of place—a gable-ended old house, one side palsied, as it were, and leaning over sadly. * * Entering that gable-ended Spouter-Inn, you found yourself in a wide, low, straggling entry, with old-fashioned wainscots, reminding one of the bulwarks of some condemned old craft. On one side hung a very large oil-painting, so thoroughly besmoked and every way defaced, that in the unequal cross-lights by which you viewed it, it was only by diligent study and a series of systematic visits to it, and careful inquiry of the neighbours, that you could any way arrive at an understanding of its purpose. * * The picture represents a Cape-Horner in a great hurricane; the half-foundered ship weltering there with its three dismantled masts alone visible; and an exasperated whale, purposing to spring clean over the craft, is in the enormous act of impaling himself upon the three mast-heads. The opposite wall of this entry was hung all over with a heathenish array of monstrous clubs and spears. Some were thickly set with glittering teeth resembling ivory saws; others were tufted with knots of human hair; and one was sickle-shaped, with a vast handle sweeping round, like the segment made in the new-mown grass by a long-armed mower. You shuddered as you gazed, and wondered what monstrous cannibal and savage could ever have gone a death-harvesting with such a hacking, horrifying implement. Mixed with these were rusty old whaling lances and harpoons, all broken and deformed. Some were storied weapons. With this once long lance, now wildly elbowed, fifty years ago did Nathan Swain kill fifteen whales between a sunrise and a sunset. And that harpoon—so like a corkscrew now—was flung in Javan seas, and run away with by a whale, years afterwards slain off the Cape of Blanco. The original iron entered nigh the tail, and, like a restless needle sojourning in the body of a man, travelled full forty feet, and at last was found imbedded in the hump. Crossing this dusky entry, and on through yon low-arched way—cut through what in old times must have been a great central chimney with fire-places all round—you enter the public room. A still duskier place is this, with such low ponderous beams above, and such old wrinkled planks beneath, that you would almost fancy you trod some old craft's cockpits, especially on such a howling night, when this corner-anchored old ark rocked so furiously. On one side stood a long, low, shelf-like table covered with cracked glass cases, filled with dusty rarities gathered from this wide world's remotest nooks. Projecting from the further angle of the room stands a dark-looking den—the bar—a rude attempt at a right whale's head. Be that how it may, there stands the vast arched bone of the whale's jaw, so wide, a coach might almost drive beneath it. Within are shabby shelves, ranged round with old decanters, bottles, flasks; and in those jaws of swift destruction, bustles a little withered old man, who, for their money, dearly sells the sailors deliriums and death. * * Upon entering the place, I found a number of young seamen gathered about a table, examining by a dim light divers specimens of *skrimshander*. I sought the landlord, and telling him I desired to be accommodated with a room, received for answer that his house was full—not a bed unoccupied. 'But avast,' he added, tapping his forehead, 'you haint no objections to sharing a harpooneer's blanket, have ye? I s'pose you are goin' a whalin', so you'd better get used to that sort of thing.' * * 'I thought so. All right; take a seat. Supper?—you want supper? Supper 'll be ready directly.'—I sat down on an old wooden settle, carved all over like a bench on the Battery. At one end a ruminating tar was still further adorning it with his jack-knife, stooping over and diligently working away at the space between his legs. He was trying his hand at a ship under full sail, but she didn't make much headway, I thought. At last some four or five of us were summoned to our meal in an adjoining room. It was cold as Iceland—no fire at all—the landlord said he couldn't afford it. Nothing but two dismal tallow candles, each in a winding sheet. We were fain to button up our monkey jackets, and hold to our lips cups of scalding tea with our half-frozen fingers. But the fare was of the most substantial kind—not only meat and potatoes, but dumplings. Good heavens! dumplings for supper! One young fellow in a green box coat, addressed himself to these dumplings in a most direful manner.—'My boy,' said the landlord, 'you'll have the nightmare to a dead certainty.'—'Landlord,' I whispered, 'that ain't the harpooneer, is it?'—'Oh, no,' said he, looking a sort of diabolically funny, 'the harpooneer is a dark complexioned chap. He never eats dumplings, he don't—he eats nothing but steaks, and likes 'em rare.' * * Presently a rioting noise was heard without. Starting up, the landlord cried, 'That's the Grampus's crew. I seed her reported in the offing this morning; a three years' voyage, and a full ship. Hurrah, boys; now we'll have the latest news from the Feegees.'—A tramping of sea boots was heard in the entry; the door was flung open, and in rolled a wild set of mariners enough. Enveloped in their shaggy watch coats, and with their heads muffled in woollen comforters, all bedarned and ragged, and their beards stiff with icicles, they seemed an eruption of bears from Labrador. They had just landed from their boat, and this was the first house they entered. No wonder, then, that they made a straight wake for the whale's mouth—the bar—when the wrinkled little old fellow there officiating, soon poured them out brimmers all round. One complained of a bad cold in his head, upon which the old fellow mixed him a pitch-like potion of gin and molasses, which he swore was a sovereign cure for all colds and catarrhs whatsoever, never mind of how long standing, whether caught off the coast of Labrador, or on the weather side of an ice-island. The liquor soon mounted into their heads, as it generally does even with the arrantest topers newly landed from sea, and they began capering about most obstreperously."

The dark-complexioned harpooner turned out to be a cannibal, one Queequeg,—as sweet-tempered a savage as if he had been a prize vegetarian. It seemed odd enough to find Miss Martineau in her 'Eastern Travel' professing that "she had never rested till she had mastered the religious idea involved in cannibalism,"—but Mr. Melville's impersonation of the virtues and humanities which are to light up and relieve his terrible story is yet odder as a selection. The Battas, who, as Sir Stamford Raffles assures us, eat their progenitors when the latter are sixty years old, are henceforth not beyond the reach of *réhabilitation*:—nay, those most dismal of Gnomes, the aborigines who devour clay, may now expect their laureate and their apologist. To such lengths will a craving for effect carry a sane man!

We have little more to say in reprobation or in recommendation of this absurd book,—having detailed its leading incident. Mr. Melville has been on former occasions characterized by us as one who thoroughly understands the tone of sea superstition. There is a wild humorous poetry in some of his terrors which distinguishes him from the vulgar herd of fustian-weavers. For instance, his interchapter on 'The Whiteness of the Whale' is full of ghostly suggestions for which a Maturin or a Monk Lewis would have been thankful. Mr. Melville has to thank himself only if his horrors and his heroics are flung aside by the general reader, as so much trash belonging to the worst school of Bedlam literature,—since he seems not so much unable to learn as disdainful of learning the craft of an artist.

Recollections of Manilla and the Philippines, during 1848, 1849, *and* 1850. By Robert Mac Micking, Esq. Bentley.

The author of this volume appears to be a Scotchman; who, after residing in the Philippines for three years in some commercial capacity, has thought it worth his while to convey to people at home his impressions of the conditions and prospects of those distant and little known islands. This is as it should be. What with our growing relations with China and the

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Eastern Peninsula,—what with our still more direct concern with the splendid island of Borneo,—there can be no doubt that we ought to be turning our attention to the Philippines; the destinies of which islands will evidently be determined in no small degree by the approximation now taking place in those seas between the European and the Chinese races. Considering the number of books that are at present published respecting islands, hitherto known only by name, lying between the western coast of America and the eastern coast of Asia, it would seem as if the literary instinct were preceding the march of actual colonization,—and marking out, as it were, spot by spot, the scattered sites in the Pacific on which the enterprise of the West, whose present outpost is California, is successfully to plant its footsteps as it crosses the ocean to complete the chain of intercourse between America and the more ancient scenes of civilization in China and India. Such books, if reasonably well executed, are to be welcomed,—less as additions to our literature, than as reports about new places required by the world's enlarging business.

Viewed in this light, Mr. Mac Micking's is a very meritorious book. It possesses no great literary excellence, either of style or of arrangement; but it is a sensible and plain record of a great variety of things which it will be useful for people in general, and more particularly for men engaged in commerce, to know about the Philippines. A considerable portion of the volume is occupied with a gossiping and agreeable, though not very systematic or vivid, account of social habits and customs in Manilla and in other parts of the islands. The entire population of the Philippines Mr. Mac Micking estimates at about five millions:—consisting for the most part of descendants of the original Malay Indians, whom the Spaniards found in possession of the islands, with a considerable number of Spanish and other European immigrants, a still larger number of half-castes, and not a few Chinese. The great majority of the population of the Philippines are engaged in agricultural occupations; the chief seat of trade being the capital of the islands, Manilla,—a city of about 200,000 inhabitants, of whom about 5,000 are Spaniards or whites, and rank as an aristocracy. Here is a description of the usual habits of a Spanish resident in Manilla.—

"As persons in the government service form the great proportion of the white population, a sketch of the habits of one of them may not be uninteresting;—say those of an average officer of the Hacienda, for instance. He usually gets out of bed about six, or a little after, to enjoy the cool air of the morning, and sip his chocolate, with the aid of *broas*, without which he could scarcely manage to get through the day; he then dresses aod drives to his office, where he remains till twelve o'clock, which hour finishes his official duties for the day. While in his office the nature of his work is not very arduous, and does not appear to call into play any powers of the mind, as it appears to consist only in his remaining for about four hours in a cool and large room, generally seated at a table or desk, overlooking a number of native writers, occupied in making out and filling up forms which are required by the existing regulations for the government service. The Spaniard, however, has nothing to do with all that, only occasionally exerting himself so far as to sign his name, or merely to dash his *rubrica*, without taking the trouble to sign his name, to the papers presented to him by these native copyists; and should you enter his office, he generally appears to be just awaking from a nap, as he opeos his eyes, and rouses himself to salute his visitor. At noon the public offices are closed, and he drives home to dine about one or two o'clock, after which, he generally sleeps till about five, for nearly all the Spanish resideots take a long siesta. About that time of the day, he is awakened to dress and prepare for the *paseo* on the Calyada, and for the *tertulia* after it, at the house of some acquaintance; or if he should by any chance happen to be without acquaintance, to saunter through the Chinamen's shops, admiring walking-canes, cravats, or waistcoat-pieces; and while so engaged, he is pretty sure to meet some companion for a gossip, or other amusement. After this, he sets off to sup at home, and to sleep till another day comes round, when the same routine must be gone through."

The author thus relates one of the customs of the Manillese most curious to a stranger, and an ancedote in connexion with it.—

"It is the custom at Manilla for any respectably-dressed European passiog by a house where music and dancing are going on, to be permitted to join the party, although he may be a perfect stranger to every one there; and should any one do so, after having made his bow to the master of the house, and said somo words, of course about the liberty ho was taking, and his fondness for music and dancing, &c., he is always welcomed by him, and is at perfect liberty to ask any lady present to dance; nor is she likely to refuse him, as her doing so would scarcely be considered well bred. * * Some years ago a British merchant, resident at Manilla, was very much blamed by his countrymen for not conforming to the customs of the country in this respect. He broke through them in this manner;—after the China war, a part of the expedition visited Manilla, including some of the principal officers both of the army and navy, who had just been so gallantly distinguishing themselves in that country. On their arrival at Manilla, the houses of their countrymen to whom they went provided with introductions were in a great measure thrown open to them; and of course, as their hospitable entertainers wished to show them something of the people and the place, a good deal of gaiety was got up to amuse them. Among others the gentleman in question gave a ball to General Lord Saltoun and the Admiral, including, of course, most of the other officers of the expedition. The party was a large one, and included nearly all the British residents there, together with his Spanish acquaintances. Hearing the sounds of music and dancing in the street, a stranger entered the house and walked up stairs; and unperceived, I believe, by the landlord, entered the ball-room, where he eogaged a Spanish lady to dance,—the girl whom he asked chancing to be the daughter of a military officer of rank, aod a particular friend of the giver of the party. On leading her up to her place, the stranger was remarked, and recognized by some one present, who asked his host if he knew who the person was; but he, on looking at him, merely said that he did not, and was passing on without more notice or thought about him. Just at the moment, some one wishing to quiz him, said to the host, who was a man of hasty temper and feelings,—'So, D——, you have got my tailor to meet your guests,' pointing, at the same time, towards the stranger whom he had just been observing. Of course, Mr. D—— was angry at the liberty taken by such a person in joining his party, and probably afraid of the laugh it would give rise to; for he walked up to the tailor, and asked him in a most angry manner by whose invitation he came there, and then, without waiting for any reply, catching his coat-collar, walked with him to the top of the stairs, and kicked him down. The man complained to the governor, and the consequence was that Mr. D—— was fined a considerable amount, aod for some time banished to a place at a short distance from Manilla, which he was forbidden to enter. As he was a merchant, and of course had his business to attend to, this was a most severe punishment, which, by the influence of tho Consul, however, was subsequently rescinded, and he was allowed to return to town."

The best portion of Mr. Mac Micking's volume, however, is that devoted to the commerce of the Philippines,—including a detailed account of their imports and exports. Of the import trade Mr. Mac Micking says:—

"The import trade of Manilla is almost entirely in the hands of the British merchants established there, so far as the great staple articles of manufactured goods are concerned; although a quantity is regularly furnished to supply the demands of the market by the Chinese, whose earthenware, iron cooking utensils, silks, cloths, and curiosities, are very plentiful at Manilla, and are indeed obtainable over all the country without much difficulty. Among the produce of our looms, especially those of Manchester and Glasgow, which are at all times saleable here, may be mentioned shirtings, both white and grey, long-cloths, domestics, drills, cambrics, jaconets, twills, white and printed, bobbinnet, gimp lace, cotton velvet, sewing thread, cotton twist of certain colours, principally Turkey red, Turkey red cloth, prints of various sorts, chiefly Bengal stripes, furniture prints, and Turkey red chintz prints, kambayas, and ginghams, which being cheaper are gradually taking the place of kambayas; indigo blue checks, imitation Piña cloth, blue and striped chambrays, grandrills, trouser stuffs of various sorts, chiefly of cotton, and mixed cotton and wool: handkerchiefs of many descriptions, known as Kambaya handkerchiefs, Turkey red bandanas, fancy-printed light ground checked handkerchiefs, Scotch cambric handkerchiefs, &c.; broad-cloth, cubicoes, lastings, orleans, gambroons, long ells, camlets, carriage lace, both broad and narrow, canvas, cordage, iron, lead, spelter, steel, cutlery, ironmongery, earthenware, glassware, umbrellas and parasols of cotton and silk, &c., as well as India beer, which, though last mentioned, is not the common sort of beer, nor the least profitable or pleasant of them all."

The export trade is also chiefly conducted by British and American houses; and consists mainly of the following articles:—rice exported chiefly to China,—sugar, hemp, cigars, cordage, and Japan wood, exported to Great Britain, the Continent, Australia, the Indies, California, and the United States,—leaf tobacco, exported to the Continent,—coffee, indigo, hides, hide cuttings, mother-of-pearl shell, tortoise shell, gold dust, exported to China,—ebony wood, grass cloth, and hats of native manufacture. Mr. Mac Micking devotes some pages to a specific notice of each of these articles of export. He also informs us that—

"Of the exports to the continent of Europe only a small proportion goes to Spain, probably not exceeding a third part of the quantities set down in the table for the Continent. Bremen, Hamburg, and Antwerp are the three towns in the north with which most business is done, and Bordeaux and Havre de Grâce are nearly the only places to which the other exports are shipped for Europe, exclusive of the ports of Cadiz, Malaga, and Bilboa, in the Peninsula."

The book contains notices of the native Indian population and the half-castes in various parts of the islands; as well as some very interesting particulars relative to the Chinese settlers—who, next to the English and the Americans, seem to be by far the most money-making and enterprising. Our Socialist readers will see from the following extract that the Leclaire system of co-operation or partnership in establishments, which has been so much talked of here of late, has been long in practice among the Chinese traders in Manilla.—

"Without the walls [of Manilla] nearly all the trade is carried on, the Escolta and Rosario, on that side of the river, being the principal streets, built however without any regard to regularity, so that they are not handsome, but in them nearly all the best Chinamen's shops are situated. These are in general very small confined places, though crammed with manufactures, the produce of Manchester, Glasgow, Birmingham, and of many other European aod Chinese manufacturing marts. Some of the shops may also be seen stuffed to the door with the valuable Piña cloth, husi, and other productions of the native looms. The great object of the Chinese shopmen appears to be, to show the most varied, and frequently miscellaneous, collection of goods in the smallest possible space; as, their shops being for the most part not more than ten feet broad towards the street, leaves but little space besides the doorway to display the attractions of their wares, and every inch has to be made the most of by them. These China shopkeepers have nearly driven all competition, except with each other, out of the market,—very few

Mestizos or Spaniards being able to live on the small profits which the competition among themselves has reduced them to. A China shopkeeper generally makes his shop his home, all of them sleeping in those confined dens at night, from which, on opening their doors about five in the morning, as they usually do, a most noisome and pestiferous smell issues and is diffused through the streets. The Mestizos cannot do this, but must have a house to live in out of the profits of the shop; and the consequence has been, that when their shop-keeping profits could no longer do that, they have nearly all betaken themselves to other more suitable occupations, from which the energies of their Chinese rivals are less likely to drive them. The number of Chinamen in Manilla and throughout the islands is very great, and nearly the whole provincial trade in manufactured goods is in their hands. Numerous traders of that nation have shops opened throughout the islands, their business being carried on by one of their own countrymen, generally the principal person of the concern, who remains resident in Manilla, while his various agents in the country keep him advised of their wants, to meet which he makes large purchases from the merchants, and forwards the same to his country friends. Besides having many shops in the provinces, each of these head men is generally in the habit of having a number of shops in Manilla. Sometimes upwards of a dozen being frequently all contiguous to one another, so that any one going into one of his shops and asking for something the price of which appears too dear, refuses it and goes to the next shop, which probably belongs to the same man, and is likely to buy it, as he is apt to think—because they all ask the same price—that it cannot be got cheaper elsewhere, so gives the amount demanded for it, although it is probably very much too dear. * * In these Chinese shops, the owner usually engages all the activity of his countrymen employed by him in them, by giving each of them a share in the profits of the concern, or, in fact, by making them all small partners in the business, of which he of course takes care to retain the lion's share, so that while doing good for him by managing it well, they are also benefitting themselves. To such an extent is this principle carried, that it is usual to give even their coolies a share in the profits of the business in lieu of fixed wages, and the plan appears to suit their temper well; for although they are in general most complete eye-servants when working for a fixed wage, they are found to be most industrious and useful ones when interested even for the smallest share."

Everything seems to prove that, whether the Chinese empire is to be disintegrated or not by European influence, the Chinese as individuals will maintain their position, and get on well wherever they are:—herein, perhaps, rivalling in reputation (who knows?) Mr. Mac Micking's own countrymen.

The Castle of the Deserts—[*Le Château des Déserts*]. By Georges Sand. Jeffs.

That the good angel of Madame Dudevant has here forsaken her will be owned by her most resolute admirers and panegyrists.—Her newest novel is insipid; innocent of any imaginable purpose, and to be deprecated as recalling a tale which every one should desire to see forgotten. There is something more like the cold effrontery of cynicism than the fantastic enthusiasm of faith in thus recurring to, if not precisely continuing 'Lucrezia Floriani.' That bad book was written—or rumour is more than usually malignant—by way of apology or explanation of, and commentary on a history familiar to all the circles of Paris,—possibly under those influences of temper which, right or wrong, few women can resist. It is a book to be utterly disclaimed by the artist who has so eloquently lectured upon Art in her cooler moments. Instead of this, Madame Dudevant's gratuitous reference to 'Lucrezia' makes it evident that she regards it as a work of predilection. She could have wrought the machinery of her 'Castle of the Deserts' with perfectly new creatures without injury to one dull page or one dragging harangue.

The opening scenes may be compared with those of 'Consuelo;' since they relate the *début* of a young tenor singer,—the interest taken in him by sundry ladies,—and the manner in which this traverses the happiness of the young painter who tells the story. But, whereas 'Consuelo' may be likened to a series of pictures on enamel,—rich, glowing, complete,—this 'Château' resembles nothing so much as the morsel of china blurred in colour and warped in form which is flung away as "waste." It is enough to say, that after the hero is crossed in love, and after those who cross him have mysteriously disappeared from the scene in the middle of the night,—he has but to take *vetturino*, and go over the Alps, and a day's drive short of Briançon he stumbles on the party shut up in the "château" which gives its name to the novel, all the day long playing at ladies and gentlemen,—clearing the house at nightfall of its servants—then barricading windows and doors, &c.—and setting themselves to the serious business of their lives,—which is studying Art, by acting and altering plays in a private theatre, in the presence of nobody. Into this mysterious arena for training our hero is dragged,—and there induced, at a moment's warning, to take the part of the Statue in 'Don Juan.'—Here Madame Dudevant takes the opportunity to say one or two fine and poetical things concerning that fable; which, like 'Hamlet,' has become a stock-object of speculation and rhapsody to the transcendentalists. But the grace and acuteness of her remarks are a mere momentary flash;—the harlequinade re-commences anon, and *Harlequin* and *Columbine* are pale, weary,—at once hackneyed and unreal. Our painter-hero is cured of his fancied love—which threatened disturbance to many people—by a point-blank declaration made to him two days after his arrival in this magic place by a courageous young lady till then utterly strange to him. "*Do you love me?*" says she.—"*If I said I did,*" replies he, "*would you believe it?*"—"*I have courage,*" is her rejoinder, "*I love you.*"—"*Will you marry me?*" responds the astonished and enchanted youth.—"*I will.*"—The two are married:—and thus closes 'The Castle of the Deserts.'

Were not Madame Dudevant a celebrity, a woman of genius, and, as some think, a prophetess,—we should take shame for having occupied our readers for even a passing instant about nonsense at once so extravagant and so vapid as this.—Does it foreshow the stream losing itself in the sand, in place of deepening and strengthening in its course, to join, to feed and to widen one of the earth's mighty rivers?

Principles of Physiology, General and Comparative. By William B. Carpenter, M.D. Churchill.

Perhaps there is no science whose laws and general principles have undergone so marked a change within the last twenty years as that of Physiology. In that period, inquiries concerning the functions performed by living beings have been rescued from the region of hypothesis and conjecture, and carried on amongst well-observed facts and the legitimate conclusions of inductive science. The absurd theories propounded by medical writers to explain the action of medicines or account for the phenomena of disease are no longer permitted to invade the domain of the physiologist; and, associating with the natural philosopher, the chemist, the microscopist, and the comparative anatomist, he can now challenge the inductive philosopher to investigate his theories, and give him the aid of his principles to assist in the prosecution of his studies.

Although Physiology, as the science which embraces the facts presented by the activity of the organs of living beings, has a ground especially its own,—there are few departments of human inquiry that derive so much aid from cognate branches of knowledge. As organized beings consist of matter identical with that which composes the mineral world, and still subject to the inorganic law, so the physiologist before examining the functions of his living body has been obliged to ascertain how many of the phenomena which he investigates are due to physical forces and chemical properties. Many of the functions of animals and plants which were formerly set down to that refuge of destitute physiologists "the vital principle," are now found to be mainly due to the action of physical forces. The researches and inquiries of Edwards, Matteucci, Newport, and Carpenter have shown not only the influence of physical agents—as heat and light—on the living functions of animals and plants, but that the amount of vital force or activity which they can display is in proportion (within, of course, certain limits) to the action of external physical forces. By the discoveries of Mulder and the brilliant speculations of Liebig, many of the phenomena of plants and animals that had hitherto been regarded as obedient to a vital agent were reduced to chemical laws. The Plant was demonstrated to be the great seat of chemical change in the organized world; and the Vegetable Kingdom was shown to be a vast chemical laboratory, by which the constituents of the earth, ocean, and atmosphere were prepared previously to their being elaborated into the forms of animal life. The process of growth in the animal, which had been previously regarded as the result of vital forces effecting varied chemical changes, was shown to be carried on with little or no chemical change; whilst animal heat and the secretions of the body were traced to active changes going on in the elements of which the tissues are formed.

Of all the subsidiary means by which Physiology has been assisted to attain its present position, none have been of more value than the microscope. Gradually have the facts revealed by this important instrument of research been modifying physiological theories till now,—when we find admitted as a general fact that all theories of function must be compatible with the phenomena of cell-life, which can be observed only by the aid of the microscope. It is in such an instance as this that the importance of studying Physiology as the law of vegetable as well as of animal life is seen. All the facts of the growth of cells and the general functions which they perform were first made out on vegetable structures by Schleiden, before their existence in the animal structure was demonstrated by Schwann. It is not, however, for the discovery of cells only that the physiologist is indebted to the microscope. That instrument completed the discovery of Harvey, by demonstrating the circulation of the blood in the capillaries. It has revealed the minute structure of organs, and afforded a means of distinguishing between many structures that the naked eye had previously confounded. It has thus led to the localization of functions which had before been deemed general; and henceforth it must become a chief instrument of research both for animal and for vegetable physiology.

If Physiology in general has gained from the researches of those employing other methods than its own, human physiology has especially gained from the researches of the comparative

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anatomist. Comparative anatomy, within a recent period, has shown that all the organs of animals have a relation the one to the other,—and that to understand the nature of the one we must know the other. What is true of the relations of the skeleton of the whole animal series, as shown by Prof. Owen in his admirable essay 'On the Nature of Limbs, is true also of nerves, blood-vessels, and muscles; and the whole series of animal structures must be studied to arrive at a knowledge of that of the highest. It is thus that every discovery of the zoologist, by furnishing ready-made experiments, as it were, for the comparative anatomist, is helping onward the great tide of physiological knowledge.

The recent progress of the science of Physiology has been nowhere better marked in the literature of this country than in the works of Dr. Carpenter. Whatever amount of detraction his very successful literary career may have called forth, we know of no works that have so faithfully reflected the progress of Physiology as his multitudinous writings. We have had occasion to differ from him, and to use the privilege of the critic when we have thought him wrong by saying so; but we are glad of an opportunity to express how much we think the science of Physiology owes to his exertions. One of the earliest works in our language which attempted to embrace in one wide view the physiology of the vegetable and animal kingdoms, and the relation of the two, was, his work on 'The Principles of General and Comparative Physiology.' Before and since that time, in reviews, papers, articles and bulky volumes, he has trodden and retrodden those fields of investigation which have given to the science of Physiology its present character. These works are not characterized so much by original research as by an extensive and accurate acquaintance with the labours of others. Whilst they indicate a patient and laborious inquiry after truth, the facts which they contain are communicated in a clear, earnest and attractive style. With such qualifications, we can scarcely wonder at the favour with which Dr. Carpenter's writings are received; and we almost question if with such gifts a man should give up, at the demand of his cavillers, time to original experimental research.—But Dr. Carpenter is not a mere compiler. His books on many important points display original thought; and on many subjects he is known to the scientific world as an observer and an experimentalist.

The 'Principles of Physiology,' though purporting to be a third edition of the 'Principles of Comparative and General Physiology,' must be looked on truly as a new work. The author tells us in his preface, that "out of 1080 pages of which it consists, not above 151—or less than one-seventh—belong to the previous edition." The general plan, however, of the work is the same. We recognize in it the same outline and scheme; but a comparison of the details would furnish one of the best commentaries on the remarks that we have made above as to the progress of the science of Physiology. The work is divided into two parts:—one on general, and the other on special and comparative physiology. In the first part, the growth and developement of the cell in animals and plants, and its union and change of form to constitute the various tissues, are treated of in a very complete manner,—and the latest researches on the subject are fully given. This is followed by a general view of the structure and forms of the vegetable and animal kingdoms. The morphology of the animal is treated, however, at much greater length than that of the vegetable; and although perhaps the importance of the first is greater in relation to human physiology, yet it seems to us hardly consistent with the general object of the work to sum up the morphology of the flowering plants in about half a dozen pages.—All students of anatomy will thank Dr. Carpenter for his clear and useful summary of the present state of our knowledge of the homologies of the vertebral skeleton. On this subject he fully adopts the views of Professor Owen; whose assistance he has had in revising this portion of his book for the press. In this part of the work there is a chapter on the general plan of organic structure and developement. Those who have watched the discussion lately raised by Sir Charles Lyell on the theory of progression in creation, will turn to this chapter with interest. We think the question is one for the anatomist rather than the geologist to decide. Dr. Carpenter discards at once the "transmutation" theory of the 'Vestiges,'—and evidently hesitates at adopting any theory of "progressive developement" at all. He has, however, a theory of his own, in which he states that "in the successive introduction of the several groups composing the animal and vegetable kingdoms respectively, the progression was not so much from the lower to the higher forms as from the more general to the more special,—from those which were in closest relationship to each other to those that are most isolated as types of their respective groups." This is the application to the succession of life on the globe of the principle asserted by Von Bär with regard to the developement of all living beings, that a special structure arises out of a general structure,—and that by a gradual change. This theory, however, is quite compatible with that which asserts that the succession of animal and vegetable life has been from the lower to the higher.

Of the chapters on Special and Comparative Physiology we can only say, that they contain the most recent views of others, and the most matured judgment of the author on the subjects to which they are devoted,—and these are subjects which are of interest to all. We are convinced, that if the sanitary alarm which has recently existed is to do good, it must be by individuals studying the laws of health. This part of Dr. Carpenter's volume contains an explanation and discussion of these laws; and those who would know something more than can be learnt from a pamphlet or a popular lecture could not have a better instructor.—The volume is beautifully printed,—and illustrated with upwards of three hundred admirably executed wood engravings.

Spain, as It Is. By G. A. Hoskins. 2 vols. Colburn.

There are three ways by which the English traveller may journey from London to Spain:—by sea from Southampton to Cadiz,—through Paris and Marseilles, whence a steamer sails for Barcelona and Valencia,—or by railway and diligence to Bordeaux and across the Pyrenees. The journey by sea is the longest, and presents the dangerous passage of the Bay of Biscay. Between the two land routes there is not much to choose. Either way there are some hundreds of miles to pass, with little to reward the fatigues of travel; but the progress—slow though it be—of the French railways will in a few years make it easy to reach the southern slopes of the Pyrenees in half a week from England. On the whole, the most interesting and agreeable route, at present is by the south—stopping short at Avignon,—and, after a few days spent in examining that fine cluster of ancient towns, Arles, Nismes, Alais, Avignon and Marseilles—all connected by branch lines of railway,—proceeding by Montpellier to Cette, where a steamer waits to carry passengers across the Lake of Thaw to the great South Canal and Beziers. From this last town the diligence runs to Narbonne and Perpignan. The distance from London to Perpignan may be achieved by this route without discomfort in less than a week. The first day's journey terminates at Paris, the next at Lyons,—the third day, Avignon may be reached,—the fourth day, the traveller is at Nismes, Montpellier and Cette,—whence a day and night in the diligence carries him to the Spanish town of Perpignan.

Mr. Hoskins, our latest tourist in Granada and Andalusia, took this route, with one or two unimportant deviations,—and his testimony is strongly in its favour. His tour seems to have been eminently pleasant to himself; but he does not possess the happy art of communicating to his readers either the calm enjoyment or the ecstatic thrill with which he gazed on Art and Nature in that land of chivalry and song. His narrative strain is ever in the same low key. In vain for him the Spanish knight has won the love of Moorish maiden. The lyre of romance touches no responsive chord in his heart. He writes of Cordova, face to face with all its stirring memories, its oriental beauty, its historic renown, as one would of Stockport or of Elberfeld—in the plainest of prose, and in the style of an appraiser. No doubt, this manner of writing has its use,—but it does not more. By dint of perseverance the reader may learn from Mr. Hoskins's solemn details something of the material reality of Southern travel:—the aroma, the poetry of the land, the soul to appreciate and interpret its form and aspects, he must himself supply. Mr. Hoskins saw a great part of Spain,—but he has scarcely added a single picture to our gallery of recollections. The following account of life in Murcia, one of the least known provinces in that country, is about the best passage in his book.—

"The streets of Murcia are very narrow, but the Plateria is flagged the whole length, and is regularly built and straight. The effect is very picturesque of the gay shops, the lofty houses almost meeting, and every window with its balcony. The Calle Mayor is also a good street, but the most picturesque point is near the bridge, where the view is charming of the winding river, the beautiful little promenade of the Glorietta on its banks, the quay, and on the other side the fine range of mountains, and the church of the Carmen and the promenade della Florida Blanca, so called from a statue of the Marquis of that name, who from a low rank raised himself by his talents to the post of Minister to Charles III.; and six years ago this statue was erected to the only great man this Dunciad state ever produced. Travellers may well pay homage to his memory, as, amongst other obligations, Spain is indebted to him for her best roads and most commodious public conveyances. The willows in the garden are pretty, and it abounds in seats. It happened, fortunately for us to be Good Friday; and the Murcians excelling all other Spaniards in their fondness for processions, we had an opportunity of seeing the best which is exhibited in the year. At ten o'clock all Murcia was in the streets; crowds of well-dressed, pretty women, many of them tall and stout,—and the mantilla, so becoming to all, giving additional charms to those even who did not require its assistance; and still greater numbers of gentlemen—an indifferent, heavy-looking set—all wrapped up in their mantles this hot day, as if it had been the depth of winter. The people, however, interested me most: the women wore gay handkerchiefs, and gowns of every variety of colour, reaching to very little below their knees; and the men were wrapped up in their blankets of many colours, chiefly red and yellow, with a deep gay fringe of tassels. Their white kilts were somewhat similar, but not so full, as those worn by the Albanians, and their cotton leggings, rude sandals, and often gay handkerchiefs on their heads were very striking. Dressed in

these costumes, and with features frequently as swarthy as an Egyptian's, one can conceive nothing in Europe more like the Moors, and the palm trees and latticed windows increased the delusion. The groups they formed were highly picturesque, and not less so were the crowds of beggars with garments scarcely hanging together. For miles round the people have flocked into Murcia to see the great annual function, and truly, for a sight-loving people, it must have been a glorious treat. The procession was headed by a company of soldiers marching in order, and then a number of children dressed in lilac robes, with high pointed caps on their heads, as long as themselves, and jingling bells; these they called Nazarenes, and certainly some who could hardly walk were Nazarenes 'in whom there could be no guile.' Others of a larger growth followed, with rich lace ruffles and cuffs, then a band of music (though not the best in the world), playing a solemn march. Then came a great number of men in long lilac robes, which covered their faces, except their eyes, and reaching to their naked feet, were bound at their waists with thick ropes; these were penitents of all ranks, doomed to this penance during the past year, and certainly not a light one, for each man bore a heavy cross, and glad they seemed to rest it on the ground when the procession stopped. Then came trumpeters; afterwards a beautiful representation of the Last Supper, figures large as life, and really well executed, carried by two dozen men on a splendidly gilt litter, decorated most beautifully with a profusion of artificial flowers and gilt ears of corn. This was followed by more penitents, bearing crosses, and another band of music. Then came a representation of the scene in the garden, the three Apostles, and the Angel succouring Christ, who was splendidly dressed; this litter was also gorgeously decorated with gilding, flowers, and a real palm tree with its fruit. Then followed more than two score of penitents, bearing crosses as before, and after them a band of music, and a litter with a group representing the taking of Jesus. Judas kissing Christ, and Peter cutting off the ear of the High Priest's servant with his sword. This was carried, like all the others, by a score of men, and was splendidly adorned with flowers, and in the centre a real olive-tree. Then again came a quantity of penitents, and afterwards a representation of the flagellation, two men scourging our Saviour, and this litter was equally tastefully decorated with flowers. A body of penitents followed, and a band of music, and then a representation of Christ bearing his Cross, cleverly executed. Then an immense number of penitents, and a beautiful image of the Veronica, bearing in her hands a rich veil, on which the head of our Saviour was represented. The platform on which she was carried was most tastefully adorned with flowers, and gilt ears of corn. Then followed a great number of soldiers in armour, with spears, and they went through evolutions, as of spearing, in time to a band, which accompanied them. Afterwards appeared the Crucifixion, nailing Christ to a Cross which lay on the litter, and this was also equally gorgeously and tastefully decorated with flowers, and gold and silver lamps. Then there was a procession of priests, and a few gentlemen, followed by above one hundred penitents, two abreast, as before; and an exquisite image of the Virgin, with her litter most tastefully adorned with flowers and lamps. When this representation appeared, all bowed, and many flung themselves on their knees, and every hat was doffed. Being engaged in observing minutely the figure of the Virgin, I did not for two or three minutes conform to this custom; but the murmurs of the bigoted crowd, and the dangerously savage looks of some of the penitents, who from the similarity of their dresses, covered faces, and great numbers, might without any fear of detection have inflicted summary punishment on me, very soon brought me to order, and made me more mindful for the future of the greater homage that is paid in Spain to the image of the Madonna than to the representations of our Saviour. A crowd of penitents, and another company of soldiers marching in order, closed a procession which certainly excelled anything I ever saw in Rome, though I have frequently seen the functions of the Holy Week, and also the funerals of two Popes. The figures were all, as I have said, as large as life, very well executed and painted, and the decorations of flowers really exquisite. The litters reminded me rather of the splendid religious procession on the walls of Medeenet Abou, at Thebes, and the general effect of the procession, of the admiring crowd, and of the solemn music, was very imposing, especially when on the appearance of the Virgin every head or knee was bent. But what a subject to make a show of! I must say, the expressions, 'How pretty!' 'How beautiful!' which I heard around me, grated harshly on my ear. How dreadful to think, that in a city of only thirty-five thousand inhabitants, fifteen hundred men (such I am informed was the number), many of them of respectable station, should be found to submit to the penance of carrying a heavy cross for several hours, walking on their bare feet over rough pavements. In the evening there was another procession by torchlight, which may be said to be a continuation of the other. First came a number of persons, many of them gentlemen, walking two abreast, bearing torches, accompanied by a number of ragged urchins, picking up the wax falling from their lights on the pavement. As this wax is considered to have marvellous properties, and sells often at a very high price, it is a little fortune to them. After these a representation of our Saviour lying in the Tomb, which was gorgeously gilt and decorated, and accompanied with muffled drums. Then followed a representation of Mary. Afterwards another, of Mary returning from the Tomb, still more beautiful; the litters were splendidly decorated with flowers and gilding, and illuminated with beautiful lamps. Then came three priests gorgeously dressed, and gentlemen carrying lights. Afterwards the Captain-General, the governor of the province, a fine military-looking man, attended by a brilliant staff. A good band followed, and a regiment of foot soldiers. Afterwards a regiment of cavalry, with their commander at their head. The effect of this procession was finer than the other, being by torchlight. I saw it from a balcony in the long straight street of the Plateria, which was crowded to excess; and as every window in a house has its balcony, and they were all filled, the effect was very imposing. I walked in the street and observed many pretty faces on the balconies of the first floors, which were reserved for ladies only. A French silversmith and watchmaker, whose house we were in, and who had every window full of his best customers, said it was not etiquette to go where the ladies were, and talk to them, but as a stranger, I might go, under pretence of seeing Mrs. H——. I availed myself of the permission, and found several pretty and lively women, who so far from being offended at my presence, overwhelmed me with their civilities and questions about England. The Murcians have the reputation of being a stupid race, and apparently they deserve this character. The Frenchman said, 'I am but a watchmaker, but at the casino, on every point of history or common topic of information, I find myself an oracle compared to the Murcian nobles and gentlemen.' They live in wretchedly furnished houses, and on a very poor, starving diet; but then they dress well and appear gay on the promenades, and that is their idea of happiness. Our companions, MM. L—— and B——, ascertained that their grand display of silks and satins and rich lace mantillas was merely outside show, and that most of the ladies debarred themselves of even the comfort of wearing chemises; and being curious on the subject, they examined the bundles of clothes washing in the streams, and declared such luxuries were never to be seen, reminding me of the ladies described by Goldsmith in one of his letters, who would have a train, though they wanted a petticoat."

Intending tourists in Spain may profitably turn over some pages of Mr. Hoskins's volumes —especially if they be curious about pictures, to which he devotes a good measure of not very lofty or intelligible criticism — for dry facts, catalogues of canvas, and other formal matter; but we would not recommend any one to encumber his or her portmanteau with volumes which have all the dullness of a guide-book without the compensating merit of entire exactness.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Sentiments and Similes of William Shakespeare. By Henry Noel Humphreys.—This is the first of those embellished books by which for some years past the Messrs. Longman have sought to illustrate the Christmas season,—and warns us, somewhat suddenly, to look forward to that coming time ere yet its shadow has fallen on the brilliant lights of this memorable year. In a book whose leading feature is avowedly illustration, it were hypercritical to go in search of reason of another kind,—and certainly the reason of this publication scarcely escapes beyond its golden borders. Though it is quite true that the sentiments and similes of Shakspeare deserve to be inclosed, as they here are, in golden frames, yet it is equally certain that they do not need it. Mr. Humphreys has betaken him to the supererogatory task which Shakspeare himself characterizes as gilding refined gold. A collection of the good things in Shakspeare contained within a bulk like this can be only a *selection*, very arbitrarily made:—for a selection swells into a goodly collection ere we can have completed almost any particular category. This book then, is to be regarded as a book for the drawing-room table,—and the text as a plea for ornamentation. The appearance of the pages is rich and elegant. The letter-press runs everywhere within threads of gold,—a broad enriched golden band forming the outer margin. The large initial letters are carved, as it were, out of golden blocks, —and the blank spaces of the pages are filled in with golden scrolls. The volume would have made a fitting gift for Miss Kilmansegge on her bridal day. The first page—to which the new species of embellishment has been confined—is a marvel of lithochromic art. "An unlimited number of separate printings," says Mr. Humphreys, "have been employed with the desire to make it one of the most perfect works of an artistic character ever produced by mere mechanical means."—"In order," he says further, "that my jewel case might be appropriate, I have adopted the style of decorative art which prevailed in the Shakspearian age; that peculiar phase of Art with which Shakspeare himself sympathized, and in which he might have caused the work of a favourite author to be illuminated for his own book-room at Stratford." The deep rich carvings, as they almost seem—ebony-black—of the binding are raised and defined upon a ground of ribbed gold,—and inclose on the one side a medallion head of Shakspeare, and on the other his cipher and scroll—both having the appearance of brown terra-cottas. To look at the book, raises thoughts of California or of Australia:—to read it, suggests a gold which makes all other gold forgotten.

Fly-fishing in Salt and Fresh Water, with Six Plates.—It has often amused us in turning over the pages of our angling literature to find the followers of this senseless sport—at once so cruel and so passionless,—affecting religious scruples, and contending for what has been called a "*bitter*" observance of the Sabbath. The author of the book now before us furnishes another instance of this curious cant—blended with a forgetfulness of numerical logic which is more likely to find favour with Isaac Walton than with Cocker.—"The author has fished on three hundred and sixty-five days in the year," he cries out with enthusiasm in thinking of the amenities of rod and line, the exciting struggles of the victim;—but suddenly remembering that the orthodox may be alarmed at such uncompromising devotion to his humane sport, he adds—"excepting of course on Sundays:"—by which means he extends the Gregorian year to four hundred and seventeen days. This is just the sort of logic which would be expected from a man who, by his own account, occupies his days in fishing and his evenings in dining on the spoils.

The Question of Unreciprocated Foreign Copyright in Great Britain.—A report of the speeches and proceedings of Mr. Bohn's meeting in the Hanover Square Rooms in July:—a summary of which we gave at the time, with our own opinions thereon.

Medical Combinations against Life Assurance Companies.—It appears from this pamphlet that certain members of the medical profession have

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combined into a society having for its object to compel the insurance companies to pay fees for the answers sent to their inquiries:—and the paper undertakes to prove that in making such a demand the profession place themselves in a wrong position. The argument seems to be fairly stated as between the parties,—but the conclusion is drawn with great severity in favour of the offices.

Fraser's Travelling Map of Ireland.—The new features which distinguish this from many other maps of Ireland appear on a careful inspection to be these:—the distance between town and town is marked, German fashion, on the connecting line; the insertion of the main and cross roads between towns, villages and railway-stations; the abolition of shading for high lands, instead of which the position and elevation of the principal hills and mountain ranges are marked in figures; and a more than usually careful delineation of the lakes, rivers, headlands, bays and promontories. In the copy sent to us part of the map is turned upside down,—but this is, of course, merely an error in mounting.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Attaché (The); or, Sam Slick in England, new edit. 1 vol. 5s. cl.
Baker's (T.) Practice of Statics and Dynamics, 12mo. 1s. (Weale.)
Barry Cornwall's English Songs, and other Small Poems, 2s. 6d.
Burritt's (E.) Peace Papers for the People, 12mo. 1s. swd.
Chambers's Books for the People, 'Foster's Spanish Literature' 2s.
Craik's (G. L.) Outlines of History of English Language, 2s. 6d. cl.
Cumming's (Rev. J.) God in History, 4th edit. enlarged, 2s. 6d. cl.
Euripides' Ion, with Notes by C. Badham, M.A. 8vo. 6s. swd.
Female Examples, selected from Holy Scripture, 18mo. 1s. cl.
Florence Sackville; or, Self-Dependence, by Mrs. Burbury, 31s. 6d.
Fry's (D. P.) Poor Law Acts of 1851, 12mo. 2s. 6d. bds.
Gosse's (P. H.) Naturalist's Sojourn in Jamaica, post 8vo. 14s. cl.
Grey's (Dr. R.) Memoria Technica, new edit. corrected, 4s. 6d. bds.
Hepburn's (J.) Memoirs and Adventures, by J. Grant, cr. 8vo. 5s.
Heron's (Sir R., Bart.) Notes, 2nd edit. 8vo. 12s. cl.
Hill (Rev. R.), Memorial of, by Sherman, new edit. 18mo. 1s. cl.
Hours of Sadness, 2nd edit. enlarged, fc. 8vo. 6s. cl.
Hubert's (Rev. H. S. M.) England's Towers, 12mo. 5s. cl.
Invalid's Companion; or, Words of Comfort for the Afflicted, 2s. 6d.
Jermyn's (L. E.) Poetry for Youth and Childhood, 2 vols. 7s. cl.
Kaye's (J. W.) History of War in Affghanistan, 2 vols. 8vo. 36s. cl.
Lardner's (Dr.) The Steam-Engine, &c. 8th edit. cr. 8vo. 8s. 6d. cl.
Latham's (R. G.) Handbook of English Language, cr. 8vo. 8s. 6d.
Livingstones (The), a Story of Real Life, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.
MacFarlane's (C.) History of British India, 12mo. 7s. cl.
Margaret, a Tale of the Real and the Ideal, new edit. 2 vols. 14s. cl.
Mariotti's (L.) Practical Grammar of the Italian Language, 12mo. 2s. cl.; Key to the Exercises, 18mo. 1s. swd.
Maurice (F. D., M.A.) On the Old Testament, sm. 8vo. 6s. cl.
Peppenheimers (The), a Novel, edited by Capt. Ashton, 31s. 6d. cl.
Parker's (H. M.) Bole Ponjis; Tales, Poems, &c. 2 vols. fc. 8vo. 12s.
Parlour Lib. Vol. 67, 'The Two Friends, by Marriott Oldfield,' 1s.
Pleasant Stories and Amusements for Young Folks, sq. 2s. 6d. cl.
Railway Library, 'M'Intosh's Grace and Isabel,' 1s. bds.
Richardson's Rural Handbooks, 'The Cow by Milburn,' 12mo. 1s.
Robinson's (J.) Works, with Memoir, by R. Ashton, cr. 8vo. 18s. cl.
Shakspeare's Dramatic Works, by W. Hazlitt, Vol. 4, fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d.
Simmonds's Sir J. Franklin and Arctic Regions, with Maps, 2s. 6d.
Statutes (The) at Large, Vol. 91, Part 2, 14 & 15 Vict. 4to. 27s. 6d.
Stewart's (W. G.) Glen Urquhart Songs, 4to. 3s. swd.
Strickland's (Miss J.) Christian Endurance, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl. gilt.
Trench (R. C.) On the Study of Words, fc. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Veale's (W.) The Chipped Jewel, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Webster's (N.) English Dictionary, revised by Goodrich, 4to. 31s. 6d.
Whately's (R.) Kingdom of Christ Delineated, 5th edit. revised, 5s.
Zotti's Metastasio, revised by Comelati, new edit. 2 vols. 12mo. 12s.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

Mr. Kane, the surgeon to the American searching Expedition, has addressed a letter to Mr. Grinnell, of New York, which is highly interesting, as giving the opinion of a competent observer in regard to the question of Sir John Franklin's position,—and makes a valuable addition to that consent of view which renders the conduct of Capt. Austin more and more inexplicable day by day, and on every ground. After referring to the reasons why *primâ facie* the lost Expedition should have been sought by the Wellington Channel, Mr. Kane proceeds to give his own conclusions arising out of the actual fruits of the search in that direction.—

Our own observation [he says] as well as all the information which we have derived from other sources makes it seem an almost unvarying fact, that the ice holds much longer in those parts of the Sound which are to the west and the south of Wellington Channel than in the channel itself. I should think it quite safe to say that, under ordinary circumstances, the navigation, though obstructed and difficult, would be practicable some weeks earlier by the northern than the western routes. It seemed to me, too, very nearly demonstrable from ascertained facts that the earlier *leads* occur on the eastern side of Wellington Channel. The currents from the Pole toward the Equator are modified, of course, by the rotary movement of the earth, and our own experience during our long drift down the western shore of Baffin's Bay confirmed the representations of all the whalers we met, that in the first months of the season the greater masses of Polar ice track their way along the western coasts, leaving the eastern comparatively free. The position of Franklin's party in the winter of 1845-6 has now been definitely ascertained. It was in the Cove between Cape Riley and the so-called Beechey Island, which is, in fact, a peninsula, forming the south-eastern Cape of Wellington Channel. Its encampment occupied the narrow strip of low land between Lancaster Sound and this channel, and commanded a full view of the ice-clad waters of both. The traces of his parties continued northwardly. We even discovered the unmistakeable marks of sledges extending toward the north. These were, in one place, well defined on the shingle limestone, and, further on, in the hardened snow of former years. There can be no doubt, then, either that Sir John did in fact proceed north from his first wintering ground, or that, at least, he made observations in that direction to a considerable and we do not know how great a distance. * * Whether Sir John Franklin had penetrated to the southward and westward before making harbour at this point is a question of minor importance. We know that he wintered near the Great Channel, and, from what all the world knows of the character of Sir John, it is not in the slightest degree probable that he would rest at Beechey after the ice had opened along the eastern shores of Wellington Inlet, in the mere hope of being able to penetrate to south and west at some later period. If the ice did become detached he would avail himself of the earliest leads even if he was resolved to return on his track when the season should be more advanced, in order then to push his way toward Cape Walker. He certainly did leave his quarters early in 1846, and there are some marks which might support the idea that he did so somewhat hastily, as if availing himself of an unexpected pathway. If there are no traces of him in the direction of Cape Walker, as there are none of later date than 1845-6 in the neighbourhood of Beechey, the inference seems to me irresistible that he passed northward by Wellington Channel, and that he did not return. He might not be able to do so, without having encountered any fatal accident. We were ourselves, as you know, caught nearly opposite poor Franklin's first sojourn, and borne northward in the ice for fifteen days, directly against the theoretical currents, and with great rapidity. We saw at this time high and dome-like ranges of land trending north-westwardly a-head of us, in the latitude of 76° at least, and probably much further. The axis of polar drift must then be more or less from the north-west, and must have its seats of greatest ice accumulation along the northern coast of what we call Cornwallis's Island. Into the region north and west of this, which for aught we know may be open always, and which must be open sometimes, as we know, a continuance of our drift for a few days longer would have carried the American squadron; and it is not difficult to imagine that Sir John, if caught in the ice of Wellington Channel, may have been impelled by a like cause in the same direction, as certainly if he was not so caught he would follow the open water. I should say that he is now to be sought for north and west of Cornwallis's Island.—As to the chance of the destruction of his party by the casualties of ice, the return of our own party, after something more than the usual share of them, is the only fact that I can add to what we knew when we set out. The hazards from cold and privation of food may be almost looked upon as subordinate. The snow hut, the fire and light from the moss lamp fed with blubber, the seal, the narwhal, the white whale, and occasionally abundant stores of migratory birds, would sustain vigorous life. The scurvy, the worst visitation of explorers deprived of permanent quarters, is more rare in the depths of a polar winter than in the milder weather of the moist summer, and our two little vessels encountered both seasons without losing a man.

The following is from an old and well-informed correspondent of our own.—

The return of the various Expeditions despatched in search of Sir John Franklin, without obtaining any clue to his discovery, has naturally excited much painful interest throughout the country, and given rise to many conflicting opinions as to the expediency of renewing the attempt to penetrate the distressing and apparently almost hopeless mystery which has so long hung over his fate. I should have been loth at this stage of the question to intrude so lengthy a communication on your columns, did I not think that notwithstanding all that has been written on it, there remain still some interesting and important aspects of the subject to be considered and discussed. Although unsuccessful in obtaining any clue to the actual position of the missing vessels, the results of the extended explorations which have been continued for so many years, have at least informed us where they are *not*, and so narrowed the field of conjecture within tolerably precise and definable limits. Capt. Penny's researches in particular have afforded us also the grounds of something more than a conjecture as to the probable direction taken by the party from the point where the last positive traces of them suddenly disappear at Cape Riley.

Under these circumstances there appear these two questions for us to consider.—

1. What information, from authentic sources, can be drawn together as to the nature and character of that portion of the Arctic Sea lying beyond the hitherto attained limits of our searching squadrons?

2. Assuming Sir John Franklin to be at this moment somewhere within these limits, unable, from some of the numerous casualties besetting the navigation of these seas, to extricate his ships,—what resources are we, from actual observation, or from the analogy of neighbouring and similar districts, warranted to conclude exist there for the support of human life?

A glance at the great land-locked basin forming the Arctic Ocean exhibits to us on the East or Greenland side, and for some distance along the North American shore, an Archipelago of ice-encumbered islands of unknown extent, but generally supposed to lead to an extensive open sea to the westward—possibly surrounding the Pole—but at any rate comparatively free from ice along an immense circumference of coast actually explored by MM. Von Wrangel and Von Anjou on the Asiatic side, and by Sir John Franklin himself, Messrs. Dease and Simpson, Kellet, and others, on the side of America. The explorations of the Expedition under Baron Wrangel's command were continued at different points over an extent of nearly 50 degrees of longitude along the Siberian coast from Behring's Straits; and it is an interesting fact that from whatever point of the coast their departure was taken, the result appears invariably to have been the same:—after an ice-journey of more or less continuance, they arrived where further progress was impossible; where, to use the words of M. Von Wrangel, we beheld the wide immeasurable ocean spread before our gaze—a fearful and magnificent but to us most melancholy spectacle.*

The appearance presented to Franklin on the opposite coast of America is stated to have been very similar. "After the middle of August," he observes, in the Narrative of his Second Journey, p. 319, "the ice was not only broken up within the sphere of our vision, but a heavy swell rolling from the northward indicated a sea unsheltered by islands, and not much encumbered by ice." The glimpse of open water obtained by Capt. Kellet beyond the barrier of islands and ice blocking up the entrance to Behring's Straits would appear also so far to favour the same view.

Whether these openings are but the opposite margins of one vast circumpolar basin of comparatively unencumbered sea (as many circumstances would lead us to infer it), or whether they form a system of connected Polynia, to adopt a phrase of Baron Wrangel's, intersected by chains of ice-encumbered islands, there can be no doubt that to the northward of Parry's Archipelago a large space of comparatively open water does somewhere exist, and as little doubt that a man of Franklin's temperament, succeeding in entering, or imagining that he had entered, a field so interesting to a veteran Arctic navigator, would push on at all hazards for the scene of Wrangel's explorations, in the confident expectation of making the long-desired passage through Behring's Straits.

It is premature to speculate on the probability of Victoria Channel affording an entrance into the great Polynia of Wrangel; but the fact of a strong current observed as setting down through the Wellington Channel,—the existence of considerable quantities of drift wood, never found in a similar condition in Lancaster Sound, but answering very closely to the description of that found by M. Von Anjou on the New Siberian Islands,—the sensible amelioration of the climate, and the improved character of the vegetation with *the progress northward*, inexplicable under any other hypothesis,—are all strong presumptive evidences of a connexion of some nature existing between them.† Under any view of the case, however, it can no longer be a question that Franklin has passed up this strait, and in all probability penetrated so far to the westward as to be beyond the reach of any means of rescue that we have hitherto been able to apply.

The important inquiry arises, therefore,—In what manner could so large a party have found the means of subsistence for so long a period without assistance from England? It would be folly to dogmatize on a subject over which so much uncertainty must necessarily hang, and perhaps idle to expect that the whole party can be still in life; but to infer from the calculated duration of the stores supplied to them on leaving this country that by this time they must all necessarily have perished, and thence to base the inhuman counsel of abandoning all further search to their fate, is, I hesitate not to say, a conclusion wholly unwarranted by our experience of the resources of these Arctic latitudes, scanty and precarious as they undoubtedly are. Let us not forget that the existence which our missing friends may now be supposed to be leading in the unknown recesses of the Arctic Seas involves after all, and at the worst, hardly any greater danger or privation—perhaps even less—than that of the many hundreds of their fellow-countrymen scattered over the famishing territories of the Hudson's Bay Company. Agriculture may be said to be here wholly unknown, except in the extreme southern provinces; and a particle of English imported provisions has not entered the country perhaps within the memory of man. The only means of subsistence, in fact, over thousands of miles of barren territory bordering on the Polar Sea and Hudson's Bay are the unaided natural resources of the district;—such resources as Franklin's party have certainly the same means, and may well be supposed to have the same opportunities of turning to account under their present circumstances, whatever they may be. In all essential respects the climate and natural productions of the Arctic Islands are pretty much the same with those of the neighbouring mainland. On the whole, I should say, indeed, the balance is in favour of the former,—as there is here an abundant supply of marine life to fall back upon when other means of subsistence have failed. One of the last winters I passed in the Hudson's Bay territories was on the borders of the Arctic Sea, near the mouth of M'Kenzie's River; where, from our fisheries alone, we found no difficulty in maintaining a large party

* It should be observed that Baron Wrangel's was a land expedition, totally unprovided with boats or other means for navigating the open water, by which their progress was constantly arrested on leaving the coast.

† One or two of these may be mentioned. The most remarkable, perhaps, is, the sudden and extraordinary amelioration of the climate observed in the country westward of M'Kenzie's River, due doubtless to the modifying influences of a constantly open sea to the northward. The dense fogs continually hanging over the coast, which struck Franklin himself so forcibly while travelling here, from the contrast they presented to the clear open sky to the eastward of the Coppermine, must be regarded as an additional corroboration of the view here taken. A similar phenomenon was observed by Baron Wrangel. Whenever the wind blew from the sea, he remarks, "that it was so saturated with wet as frequently to damp their clothes."

‡ There is an interesting coincidence between the account given by Capt. Penny of the open sea which he found to the westward, and a statement made by one of our old navigators—Davis; but, in the usual spirit of the time in which he lived, disbelieved. He relates that "in lat. 75," [within a few miles of the permanent open water as laid down in the Admiralty Chart of Capt. Penny's discoveries], he suddenly fell upon "a great sea, free from ice, large, very salt, blue, and of an unspeakable depth."

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of Europeans and natives whom the novelty of the event had attracted around us. Here, again, is a list of the quantities of game obtained from a few hunting excursions of the officers of Sir Edward Parry's Expedition at Melville Island, which may be taken as a half-way station between the coasts of America and of Asia:—

3 Musk Oxen,	24 Deer,
68 Hares,	53 Geese,
144 Ptarmigans,	59 Ducks:

—no mean indication, surely, of the resources of a region but too generally supposed to be utterly destitute of animal life.

On the resources of the northern shores of Siberia we have, unfortunately, very scanty materials for forming an accurate judgment. From the scattered notices occurring under this head in the valuable work of Professor Baer, of St. Petersburgh,—'Beiträge zur Kenntniss des Russischen Reiches,'—drawn chiefly from official sources,—sufficient information may, however, be gathered to warrant us in inferring that they are little, if at all, inferior to those of the corresponding Arctic coast of America. This much at least we know, that every summer sends forth parties of adventurous explorers from Siberia,—maintaining themselves as only they can maintain themselves in these latitudes, by hunting and fishing,—for the purpose of working the rich mines of fossil ivory found in such abundance in the neighbouring islands, which have been described as one vast deposit of the remains of the mammoth.

I have taken no account, in the view of the question which I have so far endeavoured to present, of the marine and other forms of animal life available, as a last resort, and found in greater or less abundance, so far as we know, over the entire area of the Polar Seas. Considered as supplementary to other means of supporting, or *prolonging* life if needful, they must obviously form a very important element in any reasoning on the subject before us. The enumeration and description of the Mammalia, and some species of birds and fishes met with by Sir Edward Parry within the Arctic circle, during the years 1819-20, fill the half of a good sized quarto volume, in the Appendix to his 'Narrative.' I need not occupy your space with any account of them, as they are sufficiently familiar to most persons, and may be readily referred to here. It is sufficient to observe, that a large proportion of them are available for subsistence,—and actually do form the ordinary and every-day food of the native Esquimaux. Without trespassing further on your space, I shall leave these facts to speak for themselves; and trust they will be useful in assisting us to a right conclusion on the deeply-interesting and important question in which the lives of so many of our devoted countrymen are involved,—and not less our own national good-feeling, humanity, and honour.—I am, &c. A. K. Isbister.

In the face of so large an amount of encouraging argument, it of course gives us great pleasure to know that the Admiralty have decided on renewing the search for Sir John Franklin and his party in the ensuing spring. This decision may be regarded as an official judgment on the propriety of Capt. Austin's premature return. If the Admiralty were of opinion that Capt. Austin's Expedition had thoroughly covered the field of search, they would not send out a fresh Expedition to do the work over again:—and, on the other hand, if the work has not been done, it is quite clear that Capt. Austin should have remained on the ground to do it. The Admiralty are well aware of the painful fact that the duty which lay clear before the eyes of the Expedition has been neglected; and we sincerely trust that the councils which are to deliberate next week on the plans of search will take precautions for securing the effective working of future Expeditions.

The history of the searching Expeditions leads us to believe that too much latitude has been given to the commanders. In the case of Sir James Ross's Expedition, it does not appear that his instructions rendered the search of Wellington Channel at all imperative. This is the more extraordinary, when it is remembered that Sir John Franklin was especially desired in his instructions to turn his attention to that channel, as likely to offer a practicable passage to the north-west. In Sir James Ross's instructions Wellington Channel is only once alluded to,—and then in these ambiguous terms:—"Should your early arrival in Barrow's Straits, or the fortunately protracted openness of the season, admit of your at once extending a similar examination (for notices) to the shores of Wellington Channel, it will leave you at greater liberty to devote yourself more fully afterwards to your researches to the westward." Thus, a secondary importance is here attached to the very route which Sir John Franklin was counselled to follow in case of not finding that by Cape Walker practicable.

This want of judgment is doubly vexatious when it is considered that a party from Sir James Ross's ships was at one time within a few miles of Cape Riley, where traces of Sir John Franklin have now been found. Had that party struck those traces—which would undoubtedly have been the case had positive orders been issued to search Wellington Channel—three years of anxiety might have been avoided, and it is probable that the fate of our missing mariners would at this day be no longer a problem.

The wealth of Arctic experience and information at the command of the Admiralty is such, that instructions should be drawn up for the conduct of the commander of any future searching Expedition which shall guide him throughout his sojourn in the Arctic regions,—not again leaving it to his discretion to withdraw his ships from unexplored ground long before the appointed time for their return has arrived. If it be the opinion of a well-selected and comprehensive council of Arctic authorities,—which we trust will include Capt. Penny,—that Wellington Channel and its continuation should be searched, let specific and binding instructions to that effect be delivered. We know well that any naval man accepting a command under the Admiralty has too high a sense of the majesty of discipline to attempt to act contrary to his orders when they are specifically and clearly given.

ASSYRIAN ANTIQUITIES.

Claysmore, Enfield.

In my letter which appeared in your paper of the 20th of September, I called attention to the calculations of Oltmann and Baily with regard to the date of the famous eclipse of Thales, determined by both those astronomers to be that of the year B.C. 610. And I ventured to surmise, partly from some remarks made by Mr. Baily, partly from the obvious necessity of lowering the latitude of the generally assumed locality of the battle between the Lydians and Medes during which the eclipse took place, that the historical date of that event, B.C. 585, would ultimately prove to be the true one.

I am since informed, by the kindness of Prof. Airy, the Astronomer Royal, that the reduction of the Greenwich lunar observations from 1750 to 1830, made under his care, "show as a fact of observation, that the tabular motion of the moon's node is erroneous by more than a minute of arc in a century; and that probably in the time of Thales the place of the moon's node differed twenty-seven minutes from that used by Baily, which would make a difference of 200 miles or more, according to the tables used by that astronomer, on the line of the shadow's path, sometimes throwing it to the North, sometimes to the South, according as the eclipse happened in the ascending or descending node." From the previous observations of astronomers it may be proved, that the total shadow of the eclipse of B.C. 610 will, by Mr. Airy's discoveries, be thrown further North, and therefore entirely out of Asia Minor. Mr. Airy's valuable tables of corrections of the elements of the moon's orbit, published in 1848, will I trust ere long lead to a decision of that most important question in chronology, which of the other eclipses about that period is the eclipse which was predicted by the Grecian philosopher?

Pending the solution of this interesting question, I submit for consideration a chronological table of the times of the destruction of Nineveh, framed in accordance with the historical date of the eclipse, and in strict conformity with the evidence of the earliest historians who have written of those times. It may be thought interesting as showing the bearing of the eclipse of Thales on the chronology of the times. It is my sanguine expectation, also, that it will prove to be the true explanation of the chronology of the period of the capture of the great city of the Assyrian empire.

The confusion of titles and contradictions of authority under the present arrangement of dates must I am sure be unsatisfactory to every one who has examined into the subject. The very learned work of Mr. Clinton and Hale's 'Chronology' afford ample proof of this assertion. Without dwelling on the anachronisms and contradictions to which I allude, which would lead me into too great a length, I will at once state the grounds of the arrangement which I propose. And first, let us accurately define the dates of the two reigns of Nabopalassar and Nebuchadnezzar his son.

We have already ascertained, on the authority of Demetrius, as shown in my letter which appeared in your paper of the 13th of September, that the sixth year of the reign of Hezekiah, king of Judah, was the year B.C. 695. Hezekiah reigned 23 years after that time; Manasses 55 years; Amon 2 years; Josiah 32 years, including Jehohahaz; Jehoiakim 11 years; Jechoniah 1 year; and Zedekiah 11 years: making together 135 years.—Jerusalem was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in the eleventh year of Zedekiah, and deducting 135 years from 695, leaves the year B.C. 560 as that of the Destruction of Jerusalem. Now, Demetrius records that from the time when the two tribes were carried away captive from Jerusalem to the reign of the fourth Ptolemy—viz., Philopator—was exactly 338 years and 3 months—that is, 338 years 3 months + B.C. 221 years 2 months = 559 years 5 months = August, B.C. 560. The precision of this date is very remarkable, and I submit should not be lightly disregarded.

But Jerusalem was destroyed in the nineteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar, 2 Kings, xxv. 8. So that, we thus define the nineteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar to be B.C. 560 and his first year, therefore, B.C. 578.

Let us now fix the date of the reign of Nabopalassar, who was father to Nebuchadnezzar. For, Col. Rawlinson states, "I have examined the bricks, *in situ*, belonging perhaps to one hundred different towns and cities"—(in Babylonia)—"and I never found any other legend than Nebuchadnezzar, son of Nabopalassar."—Journal of Asiatic Society, Vol. xii. Part 2. Fortunately, the date of this reign is fixed with astronomical precision. For, in the Almagest of Ptolemy, ch. V. 14, there is mention made of an eclipse of the moon, observed at Babylon, in the fifth year of the reign of Nabopalassar, in the 127th year of the æra of Nabonassar, with the exact day and hour of the event. This eclipse happened in the year B.C. 621, so that the first year of Nabopalassar must have been B.C. 625; and, allowing twenty years for his reign at Nineveh, according to Polyhistor, his last year was B.C. 606.

We find, then, that an interval of twenty-eight years elapsed between the last year of Nabopalassar on the throne of Nineveh and the first year of Nebuchadnezzar B.C. 578 as king of Babylon. It is the discovery of this interval which enables us, I submit, to reconcile the apparently conflicting accounts of the several histories of this period.

Polyhistor informs us that Nabopalassar was Sardanapalus. Whether he really bore this title, or whether it has been erroneously given to him as the king who was ejected from the great palace of Sardanapalus, we have the authority of Polyhistor for the fact that Nabopalassar was so called, and, therefore, that he considered him as the last of the Assyrian kings of Nineveh. For, according to all history, a king commonly called Sardanapalus was the last of the Assyrian dynasty. Herodotus, Ctesias, and Diodorus all testify that the Medes subverted the throne of Nineveh;—and Herodotus adds, with great exactness, that when Cyaxares, the king of Media, had overthrown that king of Assyria who slew his father Phraortes (the Arphaxad of the Book of Judith), he himself was immediately overthrown by a sudden irruption of Scythians, who possessed themselves of the empire of Asia for twenty-eight years. Cyaxares therefore conquered Nabopalassar (the Nebuchodonosor of the Book of Judith who slew Arphaxad) in the year B.C. 606, the last year of the reign of Nabopalassar in Nineveh. From thence we must count the twenty-eight years of Scythian domination, which must also have terminated when the father of Nebuchadnezzar "obtained the daughter of Astyages the prince of the Medes to be affianced to his son" (called Nabuchodrossorus), "and marched straightways to surprise the city of Ninus, that is Nineveh. When Saracus the king was apprised of these proceedings he burned the royal palace, *and Nabuchodrossorus succeeded to the empire*, and surrounded Babylon with a strong wall." See Abydenus, Cory's Fragments, p. 64. Who can doubt that these twenty-eight years of Scythian domination form the interval of twenty-eight years

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above pointed out between the twentieth year of Nabopalassar and the beginning of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon!

That some interval elapsed between the fall of the king called Sardanapalus and the final overthrow of Nineveh, is confirmed by Abydenus and Castor the Rhodian chronologist. Abydenus writes: — "after him (Sardanapalus), Saracus reigned over the Assyrians." Castor writes:—"Ninus obtained the empire after Sardanapalus." Cory's Fragments, p. 65. He is in error, however, as to the name of the king:—copying probably from some history which relates the fall of the city of Ninus, *i.e.* Nineveh.

Saracus then was the Scythian king. And now we can comprehend, without charging the historians with contradiction of each other, how, as Polyhistor relates, Sardanapalus (Nabopalassar) formed an alliance with the Medes for his son Nabuchodrossorus, who then began to reign; and how, as Abydenus relates, Saracus succeeded Sardanapalus, and yet how the father of Nebuchadnezzar conquered that Saracus; and how again, as Berosus relates, Nebuchadnezzar succeeded his father Nabopalassar after the latter had reigned twenty-nine years. Polyhistor says, that he reigned twenty years in Nineveh. He also in another place gives him twenty-one years, which I take to be the length of his reign in Babylon. Saracus, it appears from Abydenus, replaced him in power at Babylon, on hearing that a great multitude from the sea coast was coming to attack him; and thus, it is not unreasonable to assume that he added eight more years to his reign over that city. That he was so replaced, and for about so many years, we may infer from Herodotus; who, in the year of the eclipse, B.C. 585, *seven years* before the accession of his son, speaks of him as "Labynetus of Babylon," and as negotiating a treaty of peace between the Lydians and Medes in conjunction with the king of Cilicia. He was then ruler or king of Babylon seven or eight years before Nebuchadnezzar began to reign.

Thus, the accounts of Herodotus, Ctesias, Berosus, Polyhistor, Abydenus, Demetrius, Castor, and Diodorus mutually confirm and strengthen each other. They are also in harmony with the contemporary writer of the Book of Tobit, who affirms that Nineveh was captured by Nabuchodonosor and Ahasuerus; that is, by an alliance of Medes and Babylonians under Nabopalassar and Cyaxares.

And now, let us observe how the chronology, thus adjusted, harmonizes with the historical date of the eclipse of Thales,—and how completely it was at variance with the assumed date of that event, B.C. 610.

The war between Alyattes, king of Lydia, and Cyaxares, king of Media, which arose out of a dispute concerning certain Scythian fugitives, could not have taken place till after "the Scythians had found their way into Asia and arrived at the territories of the Medes,"—Herodotus, i. 103:—that is to say, till after the year B.C. 606 in our arrangement. Nor could it have taken place later than the expiration of the twenty-eight years of Scythian rule, because Nineveh was finally destroyed after the close of that war,—Herodotus, i. 106,—that is, before B.C. 579. Between these dates, therefore, we look for the war marked by the eclipse in the sixth year. And, accordingly, Eudemus, Pliny, Cicero, and Solinus, without any contradiction, all point to the year B.C. 585 as the date of the eclipse. Diogenes Laertius also remarks, that Anacharsis, a Scythian prince and philosopher, visited Athens in the 47th Olympiad =B.C. 592, which falls within the twenty-eight years of Scythian dominion. Alyattes, king of Lydia, according to the Paros Chronicle, began to reign in the year B.C. 605, within the twenty-eight years according to our arrangement, but five years after the eclipse if placed in B.C. 610. It is unnecessary, I think, to point out in detail the entire dislocation of all those dates and records which results from placing the eclipse in that year.

The interesting question yet remains,—"How are these conclusions confirmed, or otherwise, by the inscriptions which have been recovered from the neighbourhood of Nineveh? And here, I regret to say, we are at present left entirely in the dark. Col. Rawlinson has, indeed, with wonderful skill and perseverance, recovered the names of Shalmaneser, Sennacherib, and Esarhaddon. The names of their successors, however, at Nineveh, who reigned towards the times of which we have been treating, remain yet to be indentified. According to Abydenus, Nergilus (Nergal) followed Sennacherib on the throne of Nineveh. Nergal may, like Sargon, the title of Shalmaneser, have been another title of Esarhaddon. Adramelec appears to have succeeded Nergal; and after Adramelec came his brother Axerdis, or Ascharedis, who I take to be Sharezar. Then followed Nabopalassar, or Sardanapalus, under whom the Assyrian monarchy ceased. These titles, then, if Abydenus is to be depended on, ought to be found on the Assyrian monuments.

I inclose a Table of the Chronology.

I am, &c. J. W. Bonaparte.

Chronology of the Times of the Fall of Nineveh and Jerusalem.

B.C.	Judæa.	Babylon.	Assyria.	Media.	Lydia.
1	41 Manasses	17 Kinladdin	16 Axerdis, or Sharezar	5 Phraortes, or Arphaxad	36 Ardys
650	42	18	17	6	37
9	43	19	18	7	38
8	44	20	19	8	39
7	45	21	20	9	40
6	46	22	21	10	41
5	47	1 Nabopalassar, or Nebuchodonosor, or Labynetus I.	1 Nabupalassar, or Sardanapalus	11	42
4	48	2	2	12	43
3	49	3	3	13	44
2	50	4	4	14	45
621	51	5	5	15	46
620	52	6	6	16	47
9	53	7	7	17	48
8	54	8	8	18	49
7	55	9	9	19	1 Sadyattes
6	1 Amon	10	10	20	2
5	2	11	11	21	3
4	1 Josiah	12	12	22	4
3	2	13	13	1 Cyaxares, or Cyrus	5
2	3	14	14	2	6
1	4	15	15	3 Ahasuerus	7
610	5	16	16	4	8
9	6	17	17	5	9
8	7	18	18	6	10
7	8	19	19	7	11
6	9	20	20	8	12
5	10	21		9	1 Alyattes
4	11			10	2
3	12			11	3
2	13			12	4
1	14			13	5
600	15			14	6
9	16			15	7
8	17			16	8
7	18			17	9
6	19			18	10
5	20			19	11
4	21			20	12
3	22			21	13
2	23			22	14
1	24			23	15
590	25			24	16
9	26			25	17
8	27			26	18
7	28			27	19
6	29	22		28	20
585	30	23		29	21
4	31	24		30	22
3	32 Jehoahaz	25		31	23
2	1 Jehoiakim	26		32	24
1	2	27		33	25
580	3	28		34	26
9	4	29		35	27
8	5	1 Nabokolassar, or Nebuchadnezzar, or Labynetus II.		36	28
7	6	2		37	29
6	7	3		38	30
5	8	4		39	31
4	9	5		40	32
3	10	6		1 Astyages	33
2	11	7		2	34
1	Jechoniah	8		3	35
570	1 Zedekiah	9		4	36
9	2	10		5	37
8	3	11		6	38
7	4	12		7	39
6	5	13		8	40
5	6	14		9	41
4	7	15		10	42
3	8	16		11	43
2	9	17		12	44
1	10	18		13	45
560	11	19		14	46
9		20		15	47
8		21		16	48

The Scythians rule over Asia at Nineveh for 28 years. Herodot. i. 106.

Anacharsis, a Scythian prince and philosopher, visits Athens in the 47th Olympiad = B.C. 592. Diog. Laertius.

The eclipse of Thales, B.C. 585, during the reign of the Scythians.

Nebuchadnezzar invades Judæa. Daniel, i. 1.

Jehoiakim, his father yet alive. Berosus.

Nineveh finally destroyed, B.C. 579.

by Nebuchodonosor and Ahasuerus. Tobit, xiv. 15.

by Cyaxares. Herod. i. 106.

by Nabopalassar, in alliance with the Medes. Polyhistor.

by the father of Nebuchadnezzar in alliance with the Medes. Abydenus.

Jerusalem destroyed 133 years 3 months before the 4th Pharaoh Necho = B.C. 560. Demetrius.

MR. GEORGE STEPHENS.

Many who are interested in our current dramatic literature will hear with regret of the death of Mr. George Stephens,—which took place on the 15th instant. The name of the author of '*Martinuzzi*'—though not a charm to secure the confidence of managers—was yet extensively known in the dramatic world, and held by a section of it in no common estimation.

Mr. Stephens's tragedy of 'Martinuzzi', it may be remembered, was performed at the Lyceum Theatre in the year 1846, in defiance—or, we should rather say, in evasion—of the then existing law which limited the performance of five-act dramas to the patent houses and the Haymarket. By the introduction of songs, 'Martinuzzi' was, *legally* speaking, converted into a musical drama; and thus escaped the prohibition affecting a formal tragedy,—which, of course, it *virtually* remained. In many respects the work was open to exception. The plot and the motives of its agents were obscure. The language was often abrupt and extravagant. But these faults admitted, there were features in 'Martinuzzi' which undoubtedly bespoke tragic

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genius. The scheme of the principal character, with its conflict of personal honour and patriotic duty,—the queenly passion and haughtiness which throughout confront the "divided being" of the Cardinal,—and the gentle beauty of Czerina, crushed by the collision of the opposing powers in the story—belong eminently to the realms of tragic association. In Mr. Stephens's dialogue the same intensity which at times overleaped the bounds of taste often wrought striking results within them. This intensity carried him many depths below the homely domestic form of emotion. His characters spoke as though they had a charter in passion; and if on this account their tones were sometimes wild and even grotesque, they were never wanting in expressiveness, and often attained to a force of grandeur and desolate pathos which our contemporary drama has nothing to exceed.

Besides 'Martiouzzi,' Mr. Stephens published 'Montezuma,' 'The Vampire,' 'The Queen of Hungary,' all tragedies,—two volumes, printed for private circulation, entitled 'Dramas for the Stage,—and several novels, including 'The Manuscripts of Erdely.' The last-named work, in addition to its imaginative qualities, displayed great erudition, and received much critical discussion at the time of its appearance.

We regret to learn that Mr. Stephens had suffered years before his death from declining health, and from unexpected reverses of fortune. These "painful passages" were, we trust, not altogether unmitigated by the sympathy of his literary brethren. Mr. Stephens had attached to him some who could recognize not only the genius whose chief defect lay in the lawlessness of its own strength, but also the simplicity, honour and warmth of nature which fitly accompanied an intellect so earnest and impassioned.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

We learn by the *Court Circular* that the following honours have been given in connexion with the Great Industrial Exhibition.—Mr. Joseph Paxton, Mr. William Cubitt and Mr. Charles Fox, the designer, engineer, and contractor for the Crystal Palace, have been knighted,—and the first-named gentleman has also received a vote of 5,000*l.* from the Royal Commission, out of the surplus fund, for his admirable design. Lieut.-Col. Reid, chairman of the Executive Committee, has received promotion in the Order of the Bath, and is now a Knight-Commander of that Order. Mr. Henry Cole, Dr. Lyon Playfair, and Sir Stafford Henry Northcote—all three, civil servants of the Crown—have been made Companions of the Bath. Col. Mayne, Chief Commissioner of Police, has been made a Knight-Commander of the Bath.

The triumphant issue of the Great Exhibition has determined the Americans to make an attempt to get up a rival or supplementary Exhibition for next year in New York. The preliminaries have been already advanced so far as to enable the projectors to announce to our recent exhibitors—that a company has been formed, represented in Europe by Charles Buschek, Austrian Commissioner for the Exhibition of 1851, and in the United States by Edward Riddle, U.S. Commissioner, to whom the entire management of the design has been entrusted,—that arrangements have been made for the erection of a building, on an extensive scale, in a central situation in the City of New York, contiguous to the various railway termini, which, when completed, will be made a bonded warehouse for the period of the Exhibition,—that the goods of such persons as choose to exhibit will be conveyed from London in first-class vessels, and all charges, freight, insurance, &c., advanced, so that no outlay of money on the part of the exhibitors will be required,—that the goods will be exhibited with the prices attached, and when disposed of, remittances will be promptly forwarded,—that should any goods remain unsold at the close of the Exhibition, they will be returned to the exhibitors free of all expense,—and finally that works of Art, including paintings, will be admitted.—That the Americans would be the first to imitate the example of industrial congresses was, of course, expected. The excitement, brilliance, and financial success of our Exhibition were certain to produce a powerful impression among the worshippers of the "almighty dollar." They labour, too, under a sense of eclipse:—not wisely or justifiably we think, for although in the early part of the summer the States failed to make that distinguished figure among the nations to which the importance of the Union in the world gave it a title, the after arrivals of the year did more than redeem their industrial character in the eyes of Europe. Their reaping machine threatens to revolutionize agriculture. Their yacht is introducing a new principle into our marine architecture. They have forced our so-thought impregnable locks. Their new Atlantic steamers have outstripped the most famous of Cunard's liners. They have introduced to our notice a new system of small signals,—and developed a new principle in furniture construction. We are not sure that any of the great powers of Europe can claim so many and such various triumphs for the year. Still, there is on the part of the Americans what the German philosopher calls a "sublime dissatisfaction" with their share in the history of the Crystal Palace,—and they are anxious to get up a new Exhibition in their own country as a means of showing to greater advantage their vast resources and multiplied industries. To this no one in Europe will object; and as the conditions which they offer are extremely liberal, perhaps some of the recent exhibitors may be tempted to send out their articles on a voyage to the New World. The confidence between man and man, nation and nation, manifested in such transfers of valuable property is one of the best features of our time.

The daily papers announce the death, in St. James's Palace, of the Hon. Mrs. Lee—sister to the late Lord Byron, and whose name will ever be dear to the lovers of that poet's verse for the affecting manner in which it is therein enshrined. Few readers of Byron will forget his affectionate recurrences to his sister,—made more touching from the bitterness of his memories towards all those whom he accused of contributing to the desolation of his home and the shattering of his household gods. The once familiar name met with in the common obituary of the journals will have recalled to many a one that burst of grateful tenderness with which the bard twines a laurel for his sister's forehead which will be laid now upon her grave,—and of which the following is a leaf:—

> From the wreck of the past which hath perished
> This much I at least may recall,
> That what I most tenderly cherished
> Deserved to be dearest of all.
> In the desert a fountain is springing
> In the wide waste there still is a tree,
> And a bird in my solitude singing
> Which speaks to my spirit of thee.

Numismatic science has to lament the loss of a long known, learned, and distinguished cultivator, Mr. H. P. Borrell:—who died on the 2nd inst. at Smyrna.—His numerous excellent memoirs on Greek coins, and his clever work on the coins of Cyprus, form permanent memorials of his erudition, research, and correct judgment.

The last mail from China informs us of the death of Dr. Gutzlaff, at one of the British ports in that country, on the 9th of August last, in his forty-eighth year. The decease of this distinguished Eastern scholar will be learnt with regret by those who take an interest in the progress of European civilization in China. Dr. Gutzlaff was one of the most ardent and indefatigable of the labourers in that cause; and it will be very difficult to fill up the void which his death has occasioned. He was a Pomeranian by birth; and was originally sent to Batavia, Singapore, and Siam by the Netherlands Missionary Society in 1827. He first reached China in 1831; and he appears to have spent the next two years in visiting and exploring certain portions of the Chinese coast which previously to that time had not been visited by any European,—or of which, at least, no authentic knowledge was possessed. On the death of the elder Morrison, in 1834, Dr. Gutzlaff was employed as an Interpreter by the British Superintendency; and at a subsequent period he was promoted to the office of Chinese Secretary to the British Plenipotentiary and Superintendent of Trade. That employment he held to the time of his death. Dr. Gutzlaff had ceased to consider himself as a missionary for some years past; but he never relinquished his practice of teaching and exhorting among the Chinese communities in the midst of whom he was placed. In the course of last year he paid a visit to this country; and his appearance, conversation, and manners will not soon be forgotten by those who had the opportunity of making his acquaintance. He was a man of great energy and zeal. His activity and imagination occasionally got the better of his judgment; but he never ceased to labour for the advancement of that great and singular people who inhabit what he was in the habit of describing emphatically as "our country."

The recent accounts from Calcutta mention the death at that place, in August last, of Mr. Drinkwater Bethune, the judicial member of the Legislative Council of Bengal. Mr. Bethune, we believe, left this country to assume his distinguished office in 1848; and he at once entered with great ardour into several schemes for improving the condition of the natives of India. He particularly distinguished himself by his labours in the cause of female native education; and through his instrumentality several extensive schools for the education of Hindoo female children have been established at Calcutta.—Mr. Bethune carried out with him those tastes for scientific and literary studies by which, in spite of the incessant calls of a laborious profession, he was honourably distinguished while at home. The course of present events is to render still closer the connexion between this country and India; but the constant occurrence of premature deaths—as in the case of Mr. Bethune—among the best and ablest of the men whom we send out to administer the affairs of that vast region, do not fail to admonish us that our Indian possessions are retained only by submission on our part to great sacrifices.

A Correspondent writes to us as follows.—"Among the many striking characters by which the Palace of Glass and the marvels therein enshrined have been distinguished, you have more than once pointed out their extraordinary reconciling power—the way in which objectors of all classes have been conciliated by their universal spell. Let me allude more particularly to a case in point.—While the Royal Commission was still open to suggestions, and by its agents courted them from all quarters,—men of the peace movement represented to them very strongly the desirableness of excluding from their collection all weapons of war. There was reason in the objection, for the Exhibition was in its first idea and in its essential details a monument of the peaceful arts. But the Royal Commission felt that as weapons of war are a branch of productive industry they could not be excluded without narrowing the terms of their own proposal, without sacrificing the universality of their design to a dogma. They replied that the gatherings in Hyde Park were not made in support of any particular doctrine, however noble, but in the interests of industry;—and much to the chagrin of individual enthusiasts, these formidable instruments of death took their appointed place in the series. With what result? The disciples of peace have felt themselves consoled in finding the redoubtable swords of Narvaez and Changarnier laid up for an entire summer within the glass cases of the Crystal Palace. What sermons the monster French shell has preached—what reflections given rise to among thoughtful men, these summer months! Twenty years ago that shell, as many of our readers will remember, was a sort of marvel and terror in Europe. It was one of the "peace-makers" designed for use at Antwerp. During the siege of that city, in the war of independence, 25,000 large sized shot, 13,000 howitzer shells, and 15,000 common shells were expended. The month of December, in that climate a matter of importance, was nearly over, and the siege, which might have caused a European war, was still unfinished. The Dutch obstinately defended the last hold of a country torn from them by a popular uprising, trusting to the great strength of their citadel, every part of which was bomb-proof:—and the giant mortar, capable of throwing shells of 1,000 pounds weight, was at last brought to bear on the magazines. Nine of these shells were

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launched—one burst in the air, the other eight went to the mark. Two days after the firing of the first shell, the Dutch surrendered,—and the independence of Belgium was complete. No fortification could stand against such assailants. It is calculated that a dozen such shells would make a ruin of either Ehrenbreitstein or Cüstrin,—the strongest fortresses in the world. What words could enforce the doctrines of peace—the policy, the wisdom, the necessity of avoiding any approach to national quarrels—so eloquently as this terrible shell? Much platform oratory may be heard and forgotten, but the sight of a small round piece of iron, which, falling on the dome of St. Paul's would break through and tear the great edifice into fragments, is a thing to live in the memory for many a day. The capture of Antwerp in three days by such an instrument was an event which made even soldiers and statesmen tremble at the terrible consequences of their disputes. Everywhere the Exhibition abounds in peace-lessons; but few of its preachers enforce the new teaching for minds inaccessible to its higher arguments than does the monster shell."

The *Westminster and Foreign Quarterly Review*, we may mention, has passed into the hands of Mr. John Chapman, the publisher; and Mr. Hickson announces that his connexion with that periodical —which is about to appear under new editorial management—has ceased.

According to reports from Amsterdam, the Dutch notions of liberality in regard to institutions for intellectual education are not on a magnificent scale. A very curious rebuke has there been just administered in reference to the proportions of the national bounty. The Royal Institute of Sciences, Letters, and Fine Arts, of the Netherlands, has resolved to address to the king a petition for its own dissolution,—on the following grounds. For many years, say the petitioners, the Institute has periodically represented to the government that the annual grant from the State of 10,000 florins (about 800*l.*) is insufficient to cover even its immediate expenses,—and these representations have been constantly met by a promise on the part of the Minister of the Interior that he would offer to the Chambers a scheme for the re-organization of the Institute. This promise is still unfulfilled; and the budget for 1852 still presents the Institute for the sum of 10,000 florins. The Society being thus disabled from fulfilling the mission imposed by its own statutes, demands, as we have said, that it should be released from its impossible obligations. This step on the part of the first scientific body in the kingdom is said to have excited a great sensation.

We have often had occasion to notice the feeling of reverence for the past and desire to honour the illustrious dead which seems daily to show itself in France; and which at first sight appears scarcely consistent with the love of change—political and social—that distinguishes our neighbours. Without seeking to ascertain how the two feelings may be made compatible, we chronicle another fact which proves the spread of *le culte des souvenirs*, —to borrow one of the most graceful of French expressions. The *Journal du Loiret* tells us of an interesting proceeding which took place a short time since at Châtillon-sur-Loing. The remains of Admiral Coligni were transferred to the old castle of that town, which had been his birth-place, and which he inhabited during the latter years of his life. It was from thence that, on the 21st of August, 1572—two days before the massacre of St. Bartholomew — he started on his ill-fated journey to Paris. It seems difficult to understand in what the remains of Coligni could consist. It is well known that during the massacre of the Huguenots a German named Besme, having stabbed him in the back, cut off his head,—and, it is said, carried it to the Queen, Catherine of Medicis. The body was dragged by the populace through the streets of Paris, and then hung up by a chain on the gibbet of Montfaucon. Nor was this all:— Charles the Ninth, whose hatred had outlived its object, accused the deceased Admiral of high treason before the Parliament; and this latter, in compliance with the royal wish, decreed that the body should be dragged on a hurdle to the Place de Grève, and there once more hanged. The descendants of Coligni were declared *roturiers*, and disabled from holding any public office,—his castle of Châtillon was to be rased to the ground,—and the very trees of his estate cut down to the height of a man. The present proprietor of Châtillon, the Duc de Luxembourg, has appropriately enough caused the remains of Coligni, such as they may be, to be deposited at the foot of the only remaining tower of his castle, on the spot which his chamber is supposed to have occupied. A marble slab bears the following simple inscription:—"Here rest the remains of Gaspard de Coligni, Admiral of France, killed on St. Bartholomew's day, 24th of August, 1572."

The literary men of New York have been holding a preliminary meeting for the purpose of adopting measures to pay proper regard to the memory of the late James Fenimore Cooper. The absence from town of many of the leading writers prevented the meeting from adopting any final organization; but it was determined that all the literary Americans of that and other cities should be invited to unite in some form of demonstration to be decided on hereafter. Meantime, Mr. Washington Irving was appointed President,— and Messrs. Halleck and Griswold Secretaries of this Association,—and a Committee composed of Judge Duer, Messrs. Halleck, Kimball and Bancroft, and Dr. Francis, was named to report a plan of proceedings to a future meeting.

After the flood-tide of business caused by the closing of the Crystal Palace, the London omnibuses are about to return to a new level. The sudden and simultaneous increase of fare on the opening day by all the omnibus proprietors offended a considerable part of their usual public; and it is said that there are already nearly 300 of these vehicles—requiring 3,000 horses and 900 men—laid up in ordinary, having nothing to do, and at present prices no prospect of employment. Now, therefore, is the time for the public to make its own terms with these projectors, and to insist on a thorough reform in the nature of the vehicle as well as in the system of management. That no unnecessary fear of reducing the profits too low may stay this opportune call for reform, we will quote from an official source the outlay and receipts. It appears that the daily expense of working one omnibus is 2*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*, supposing it, with its ten horses, to travel sixty miles daily (fifteen journeys to and fro,—a fair estimate when the distance does not exceed two miles per journey). If it be licensed to carry twenty-four passengers, and obtain one-half, or twelve passengers, at 2*d.* each per journey, the profit would be 19*s.* 3*d.* per diem; at two-thirds full, the profit would be 1*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* per diem; at three-fourths full, 2*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*; and at full, 3*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* This estimate would yield a profit for the regular working of 100 omnibuses—on the first calculation, 30,035*l.* per annum; on the second, 66,435*l.* per annum; on the third, 84,635*l.* per annum; and on the fourth, 139,235*l.* With these large profits on the face of their account, it was no very creditable thing for the proprietors to take advantage of circumstances which in most other quarters were considered as appealing for sympathy and liberality of arrangement, by raising the fares on their steady customers. An attempt which some of their body are making to employ the vehicles thrown off the regular road in new routes at penny and two-penny fares is little likely to succeed so long as the advanced rate is maintained elsewhere. If the companies will not deal fairly with the public in their own interest, they may be assured that appeals will be made to authority,— and one fine morning they may find their whimsies superseded by police regulations such as the tourist finds in Paris, Berlin, and other cities on the Continent. Paris is a good model for an omnibus reform. Our London public should insist on these several points:—The vehicle should be made larger, wider, and have the seats railed off from each other as in the pit of Covent Garden. The fares should be reduced to a low uniform rate for three-mile courses. The system of correspondence, by which a passenger can pass from one vehicle to another without charge, should be introduced. The seat on the roof should be raised, a rail carried along the outer edge, and a regular stair made at the back for ascent and descent. A better mode of ventilation should be adopted. These changes, together with a more complete supervision by the police authorities, so that insolence and inattention may be checked and the attempt to pass bad money punished, would render the omnibus a real social convenience in a city with suburbs so vast as those of London.

ENGLISH ART.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec. Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN is exhibited immediately preceding the Diorama of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Docks, Cintra, the Tagus, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mausoleum, "The Taj Mehal," the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior.—Daily, at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

The GREAT DIORAMA of JERUSALEM and the HOLY LAND, ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, HYDE PARK CORNER, by Messrs. Bartlett and Beverly.—An entire section of this grand SERIES of PICTURES is devoted to the Holy City, with its solemn and interesting associations, including BETHANY, MOUNT of OLIVES, GARDEN of GETHSEMANE, VALLEY of JEHOSHAPHAT, POOL of SILOAM, MOUNT ZION, SITE of SOLOMON'S TEMPLE, JEWS' PLACE of WAILING, and the HOLY SEPULCHRE,—with Magnificent Views of JERUSALEM, and accompanied by GRAND SACRED VOCAL MUSIC. DAILY, at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock. —Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Stalls, 3s. 6d.
ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, HYDE PARK CORNER.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION AND THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—All the MOST INTERESTING DEPOSITS which have been at the GREAT EXHIBITION will, in turn, be LECTURED ON at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The PRESENT LECTURES are by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the Application of IRON and STEEL to the MANUFACTURES of the UNITED KINGDOM; and by Dr. Bachhoffner on ELECTRO-METALLIC DEPOSITS, illustrated by a SPLENDID SERIES of Messrs. Elkington's SPECIMENS; and followed by an explanation of Bakewell's Patent Copying Electric Telegraph.—The Exhibition of the OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE, magnifying objects upwards of 1,000,000 times their natural size.—The great economy of COOKING by GAS explained.—A LECTURE on the HISTORY of the HARP, by Frederick Chatterton, Esq., with Vocal Illustrations.—A SERIES of SPLENDID DISSOLVING VIEWS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.— Open daily from Eleven till Five, and every evening from Seven till half-past Ten.

FINE ARTS

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

The numerous suggestions for transporting Cleopatra's Needle to England, and for erecting it as a monument on the site of the Crystal Palace, have, it is said, resulted in some active measure on the part of Government. Interest in archæological science is so rarely manifested by the Executive, that we are fain to take advantage of their sympathy on the present occasion; and we are induced to inquire further into the subject, in order to ascertain the actual condition of the obelisk in question,—and whether there may not be other monuments in Egypt equally attainable, and which it is more desirable to remove.

When Mr. James Burton published a copy of the inscriptions on the two obelisks of Alexandria, more than twenty years ago, it was found that the inscriptions on the three sides of the fallen obelisk were in better preservation than were those on any three sides of the erect obelisk; nevertheless, before attempting to remove it, we would suggest that the buried side (which no one living has seen) be copied, and that the other three sides be re-examined, as time and the Arabs may have wrought great changes in the interval of twenty years.

Lying among the ruins of Memphis there is a noble specimen of Egyptian sculpture—a colossal statue of Rameses the Second, the Sesostris of the Greeks—one of the two statues mentioned by Herodotus as having been in front of the Temple of Vulcan. This statue is almost entire,—wanting only the top of the royal head-dress, and the lower part of the legs; and in its present state it measures 36 ft. 6 in. in length. According to local tradition, this monument is the property of either the Duke of Northumberland or the British nation. To whomsoever it belongs, it would certainly be more worthy of transport than the obelisk,—especially if the latter has sustained injury; and we know that a project for its removal, at even less expense than the employment of a man-of-war

would entail on the nation, has been in the hands of the Trustees of the British Museum for several years. Another monument to which we would call attention is, the obelisk at Mataria,—the supposed site of the On of Genesis, and the Heliopolis of the Septuagint. This obelisk is somewhat smaller than the Alexandrine, and it has but one column of inscription; it is, however, more perfect and more ancient,—perhaps the most ancient monument in existence of the early civilization of the human race. It is therefore very fit to be set up on the site of the most modern monument of the civilization of the present time. The chief difficulty in the way of the removal of this obelisk is, that it does not belong to ourselves; but might not His Highness Abbas Pasha be induced to exchange the obelisk of Alexandria for that of Mataria? To him, as to every good Moslem, it must be matter of perfect indifference which of the inscribed blocks of the unbelievers we take the trouble to remove,—so that his consent would scarcely be withheld. There is, however, another, and possibly a better plan:—to send experienced people to make a mould of this obelisk, and when the mould arrives in England to have it cast in iron. By this means the only land-mark of the ancient city of Heliopolis would not be removed; while we should possess a fac-simile in our own enduring material of the most perfect known monument of the civilization of man 4,000 years ago. We cannot but wish that the importance of these remains as indisputable records of the past might attract the serious attention of our Government.

As respects the statue of Sesostris, the French may probably step in between us and our property, and thus relieve us from the trouble of removing it; and although we would rather see it in the British Museum than in the Museum of the Louvre, yet we rejoice at any prospect of so valuable an historical monument being saved from the lime-kiln, which assuredly will be its fate the first time lime is wanted in the vicinity of its present situation. In corroboration of this assertion, we ourselves saw, some few years since, the last remaining eleven columns of the Egyptian Temple at Ashmouneyn mined with gunpowder, broken up into portable pieces, and carried away on the backs of donkeys to build a cotton-cloth manufactory at Mellawi,—which factory itself has since become a ruin. Not many years after, on the same spot we saw a portico of the dimensions of that of the Pantheon of Rome:—the shafts of the columns were granite,—and the capitals, in the best style of Roman work of the time of Hadrian, were in the beautiful limestone of that part of the valley of the Nile. At the time of our visit, six capitals on their granite shafts appeared above the mound in which the portico had been discovered,—but the cornice and entablature had been all removed and broken to pieces for the lime-kiln. These facts speak for themselves; and such will be the fate of every limestone monument in Egypt unless some effort be made ere too late to save them from the hands of these utilitarian image breakers.

Fine-Art Gossip.—We understand that the fact to which we have more than once adverted with admiring earnestness whilst it was in progress—and which our readers have learnt, we believe, with a sort of wondering incredulity—is at length consummated,—and Chelmsford is immortalized in the records of ingenious Art combination. The town-pump has got its new decoration,—and Chief Justice Tindal sits in marble in his native place as a Water God. The costume is not classical certainly:—but the men of Chelmsford are not particular about their properties. Aquarius in the wig and gown of a Judge of the Common Pleas is a novel thought which strikes the borough mind of Essex pleasantly because of its very boldness.—Hydropathy, teetotalism, and all other watery doctrines will, it may be presumed, make their way in Chelmsford now that the water of the town is recommended by a Judge.—A correspondent from this fanciful borough writes to us in high glee at the courage with which, as he says, his fellow-townsmen have "defied common sense." "What," says he, "is common sense to us in Chelmsford?—a thing to be pumped on?"—This correspondent,—who is determined that the statue shall have all the glory of its position—furnishes us with another reason why the present site has recommended itself to the men of Chelmsford—it is, it seems, the Pig Market. The *Chelmsford Chronicle*—which gives some very curious arguments for the propriety of the pump pedestal—insists, among other things, that "the locality should be in some way or other connected with the history and career of the subject of the monument." Now, there is, it appears, an interesting anecdote connected with the earlier story of Judge Tindal to which our correspondent "Chelmsfordiensis" applies this argument. One market day when presiding in his Court in that town, Sir Nicholas is recorded to have exclaimed, "For heaven's sake, will no one stop the grunting of those pigs!" Our Correspondent thinks that, on the principle of the *Chronicle*, this story strongly recommends the Pig Market for the site of the Judge's monument.—The rest of the *Chronicle's* arguments are the following:—and our readers will see that there is a characteristic confusion about them indicating that they have probably a common source with the motley design which they support,—and come out of the town Pump. First, the *Chronicle* thinks "that the original site in front of the Shire Hall would have been preferable,"—and *therefore* considers the monument best placed in the Pig Market!—Secondly, a Correspondent of that journal argues that Shakspeare's house would lose much of its interest "were it removed to Madame Tussaud's Exhibition:"—*argal*, he thinks Chief Justice Tindal's statue should be put on the Town Pump!—Our readers may have some difficulty in picking their way through this logic,—but they will have none in seeing that it is the very logic of the Art-combination itself.—For ourselves, we should rejoice that the men of Chelmsford have carried their eccentricity into action,—because we fear that had they failed to do so, some of our readers would have had doubts as to our being serious when we spoke of the intention. Even now, we hope that many of them will run down to see the Conduit with its new decoration,—both that they may verify the fact, and for the amusement to be derived from so singular an object.

We read in the *Scotsman* newspaper that the Lord Provost of Glasgow waited on Prince Albert at Holyrood Palace, with the view of inducing His Royal Highness to name the sculptor who should be selected to execute the statue of the Queen which it is proposed to erect in Glasgow, in commemoration of her Majesty's visit to that city. Certainly this was a curious piece of homage which could scarcely have presented itself we think to any imaginations growing south of the Tweed. The Prince was doubtless somewhat surprized by this Scottish form of loyalty; but so far recovered his self-possession as very decidedly to decline this piece of private patronage thus offered to be put into his pocket.

From Rome we learn that Mr. Hiram Powers is engaged on a large allegorical statue of California, typified by a beautiful Indian female. In her hand is a divining rod, with which she points to a mass of metallic quartz like that recently exhibited in the east nave of the Crystal Palace. The voluptuous form, the laughing eye, and the gorgeous richness of her cap, armlets, and bracelets of native ore, are intended to suggest the fascinations of the land of gold; while a warning moral is hidden in her right hand which grasps a bunch of thorns, but so disposes them as to be unseen at the first hasty glance of the spectator.

The *Société Libre des Beaux Arts* in Paris has set on foot a subscription for a monument, to be erected at Petit-Bry-sur-Marne, to the memory of one of its distinguished members, the late M. Daguerre. A committee has been named to report to the Society on the subject.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Autumn Music in Rome.

Those who know Mendelssohn's music—those, yet more, who recollect the tone in which he always referred to his sojourn in Rome—will understand what, besides the grand picture of Daniele da Volterra, urged me to go up to the Convent Church of Trinità de' Monti to see what might be left of the choir for which the German musician composed his lovely Motetts for female voices. Here was another world from any that I had yet found in Rome.—The black-robed figures indistinctly seen in their stalls which are almost screened from sight by the high altar with its shrine and tapers,—the groups of veiled ladies who dropped silently into the choir,—the nun stealing down the grated side aisle to go up into the organ gallery, made up a placid Sabbath morning scene. One or two figures, moreover, among the small congregation—a young French *moustache* kneeling apart from the rest, and praying passionately—a bronzed Greek, in full costume, who stood erect throughout the service, tall, bright-eyed and curious—a Dominican, in his black and white habit, whom Zurbaran or Ribalta might have painted—added colour and character to the picture without breaking the spell. The organ, it is true, threatened disturbance, by reason of its age and its asthma. The clattering of its keys and the wheezing of its bellows disposed me to imagine its shrouded performer some such antique sister as Gresset found in his convent of the Visitandines,—or as that smirking little body with her whitey-brown curls whose tidy playing out of church of the congregation of Wellington Salop to 'Hawdon's Gavotte,' recurred to me, enjoyed though it was a score of years ago. The music, however, proved neither ridiculous nor irreverent; but fairly composed—possibly by Mayer, Zingarelli, or Morlacchi. The singing was very sweet, refined, well in tune, and without grimace or pretension. The unseen principal *soprano* (what an aid it is to Service-music when the performers are unseen!) was a lovely voice—calm, but not cold, and as flexible as the music required: while the three-part chorus was firm, pleasing and tuneable. I have never, in short, been present at a mass more decorously solemnized, without bustle or ostentation;—and can now well understand what it was that tempted Mendelssohn to leave his name in the choir-books of the nuns of Trinità de' Monti.—Still more,—when on leaving the church I paused to look at the glorious view of the city beneath me, under a pearly sky, fresh after a shower, I could appreciate Mendelssohn's remark to the young musician who declared his indifference to an opportunity offered him of going to Rome—"because," he said, "there was nothing worth hearing there—nothing to be learned in music."—"Well, I don't know," was the Master's quiet answer,—"but there is still the place—there is Rome to be learned."

"Faith," says some old author, "would be nothing without her trials." Belief in Rome as a place of training for the musical student could hardly be more severely tested than was ours on Michaelmas Day, when the Pope with all his train was to visit the Hospital of St. Michele, on the Ripa Grande, and a *funzione* was promised, with High Mass and good music. One preparation had been made:—wherever St. Michael had a shrine in Rome the streets, strewn with leaves of bay and box, "smelt like Bucklersbury in simpling time," and the churches were decked out with their most tawdry upholstery. Down to the Hospital came Pio Nono, with his escort of Swiss guards in their court-card uniform, the *Monsignori* in those wonderful red coaches of theirs, and his French allies to keep everything in order. The show would have been excellent, from the building being a small one, (thus concentrating the richly varied costumes) and the ceremony not being long, but for the music:—this was unaccompanied part-singing, led by boy *soprani*. Its composition, so far as it could be made out, was not bad, though uninteresting; but the crude tone, the false intonation, and the coarse execution of the performers could hardly be outdone in the first attempt of "*Class one thousand and one for gentlemen*" to be opened by Mr. Hullah. Anything worse I never heard; in spite, too, of the pretension of an old *mis*-conductor, beating time most magisterially in the organ-loft. This on a Saint's day in Rome,—with the head of the Church (and of Church Art) in presence! In another St. Michael's

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Church, which I entered later in the morning, the priests ranged round the altar were murdering what would have been a very lovely Latin Hymn had it been only decently treated,—not in the tone and the taste of the "poor frozen-out gardeners." The ancient spirit is, indeed, dead, if these be average specimens of the festival music to be heard;—since, what may be called the show ecclesiastical music of Rome, which begins for the season on All Saints' Day, if without fruit in the form of taste directed and established, can count only as a trace of better days among the Art-relics of the city, as the exception which proves the rule. What I heard, however, seemed to satisfy those whom it most concerned. The churches were full; and the people in both seemed to be as devoutly rapt in the service as though cherubim and seraphim had joined in holy concert.

Having spoken of French discord in Rome, I must, in justice, not omit to mention an instance of the English vulgarities which are so revolting on these occasions, and so injurious, not merely as tending to limit the opportunities of the modest and intelligent traveller, but as destroying those sympathies on which, for basis, Art, no less than intercourse, must rest. At the church of Santo Michele the ways of exit and of entrance were kept by a troop of soldiers, headed by an officer. I saw a party of tourists of the *Ramsbottom* species drive up, armed with Handbooks. After wrangling with their coachman about his fare, the head thereof had the bad taste, on being desired by the officer to wait till the Pope had passed, to offer the latter a five-franc piece. The party were angrily thrust back, with the remark, "I suppose your English officers of the army take money:"—a well-merited rebuke for such gross work, but most unpleasant to witness. Who can wonder that we are disliked and avoided abroad when the resolution to gratify curiosity, no matter where the place or what the cost, leads persons in their own country kept in order by their neighbours to commit breaches of propriety so flagrant as this!

Princess's.—Friday week was the last night of the season, which closed with 'Twelfth Night;'—a play produced at this theatre with remarkable elegance and attention to the *mise en scène*. The management has well merited the support accorded by the public and the press.—The theatre will re-open on the 22nd of November.

Musical and Dramatic Gossip.—Dr. Bexfield's Oratorio 'Israel Restored' was performed at Norwich a few evenings ago, and received—so the local papers assure us—with every sign of cordiality by a crowded audience. So far as any idea can be formed from a long analysis published in the *Norfolk Chronicle*, the Oratorio is a work on the largest scale, in which variety of effect, as well as sublimity and seriousness of style, has been attempted. We ought to hear more of such an essay and of the writer who has produced it. We record its performance, meanwhile—like that of Mr. C. Horsley's 'David' at Liverpool—as one of those independent provincial efforts which bespeak a real and healthy interest in music far more loudly than the most eager chace after a London celebrity, or the most numerous crowd gathered by the fashionable work of some accepted musical authority.—A new Oratorio by Mr. Glover is, we believe, to be performed during the course of the winter at Manchester.

The *Sacred Harmonic Society* announces its intention of commencing its winter season in November by performing the 'Seasons' of Haydn:—a work which, as containing comic music, almost passes beyond the bounds of Oratorio, within which the title of the Society limits its selections. We are truly glad, however, of any straining of the rule the result of which will be the performance of a work so fine and so little known, under the direction of M. Costa.—The *London Sacred Harmonic Society* has also put forth its *programme* for the season; which announces little novelty, with the exception of Dr. Elvey's Coronation Anthem. The first oratorio produced is to be Handel's 'Belshazzar.' One promise, however, must be regarded as peculiar. This is, an assurance that the orchestra will be no stronger than is necessary. What such an announcement can mean, except a fling at the "shop over the way," it is hard to divine. It is not easy to have an orchestra too rich in stringed instruments,—least of all where a mass of vocal tone has to be supported, and where those blatant adjuncts, horns, trumpets, *tromboni*, &c. &c., call aloud to be mellowed. If the *London Sacred Harmonic Society* finds economy in this item expedient, it proceeds in an original fashion by calling attention to the fact.

A new *Cantata* by Mr. Macfarren, on the subject of Bürger's 'Lenore,' is in the hands of Mr. Hullah, to be performed at one of his *Monthly Concerts*.—Where is Mr. W. S. Bennett's Oratorio? Never did composer try the patience of those who are waiting for new music more seriously than this gentleman.

We need do little more here than announce the receipt of some numbers of the 'Tonic Sol-Fa Reporter,'—a penny 'Magazine of Vocal Music for the People.' The work is "primarily printed for use in connexion with Mr. Curwen's lectures on Psalmody," and the music is noted by aid of letters and numerals, and not by the universal pictorial signs. There will always be a certain amount of ingenuity ready, according to *Mrs. Gamp*, to "go as a Martha to the stakes" in support of cunningly-devised crotchets,—the object, one day a "*Fonetik Nuz*,"—another, a "Sequential System," &c. &c. &c. So be it:—but when conceit of manner is combined with impracticability of matter, the effort claims a protest. Mr. Curwen is too unselect as a popular teacher to be allowed to pass by those who have never admitted that music was to be taught empirically because it is merely a pastime. On the last page of this 'Tonic Sol-Fa Reporter,'—betwixt the 'Tune Book of the Pew' and 'The History of Nelly Varner,' is advertised a twopenny edition of Handel's 'Hallelujah Chorus,' *omitting the parts too difficult for congregational singing!* Is Mr. Curwen prepared to accompany this with an issue of "the Psalms and Lessons for the Day" omitting every word longer than a dissyllable? Yet, that proceeding would be more defensible than his present one; since the Psalms are a part of the service which cannot be escaped from, whether they be found difficult or easy, and thus the smatterers must handle them *for* the smatterers,—whereas to drag Handel into Church, and there to mutilate, clip and shear him, is a gratuitous act of aggression, for which nonconformity and rubrical tradition would be alike puzzled to find an excuse.

We are informed that M. Ponsard's new classical drama 'Ulysse,' with choruses and scenic music by M. Gounod, may probably be one of the first works produced at the *Théâtre Porte St.-Martin* under its new management.—There is a rumour that the 'Benvenuto Cellini' of M. Berlioz may possibly be performed in that arena of romanticism, the Opera House at Weimar.—Signor Alary, meanwhile, has got the start of M. Liszt; since we read that an opera written for Madame Grisi, Signor Mario, and Herr Formes, on the subject of 'Sardanapalus,' has just been completed by him, and is to be produced at St. Petersburgh during the coming winter season. There, too, it is said, Madame Grisi will take the part of *Fides* in 'Le Prophète.'—New operas by MM. Grisar and Limnander are preparing for the *Opéra Comique*. In the former a new lady, Mdlle. Wertheimber,—in the latter a new tenor, M. Dufrêne, will appear for the first time.—A new comic opera, 'Sarah,' is said to be forthcoming at Berlin, by M. Tell, a pupil of Cherubini.

From the columns of *Galignani* we learn that the Italian Opera season in Paris commenced a few evenings since, with 'Lucrezia Borgia.' The new tenor, Signor Graziani, is said to have succeeded but moderately,—the new *basso*, Signor Fortini, to have failed. These substitutions of second-rate artists, in a capital so easily wearied of its first-class favourites as Paris, renders—as the critic of the *Gazette Musicale* remarks—"the execution of operas as well known as 'Lucrezia Borgia' all but impossible. There, a strong artist can be only replaced by a stronger one. The case here is precisely opposite." Madame Barbieri-Nini was much applauded in her last *aria*. We read, some weeks since, of choral rehearsals actively going on at the instance of the new musical director, Herr Ferdinand Hiller; and were therefore surprised to encounter in *Galignani* complaints of the chorus as having been imperfect in the first act of 'Lucrezia Borgia,'—easier music than which hardly exists. The appointment of that excellent musician and pianist Herr Eckert as sub-conductor and accompanist to the Italian Theatre of Paris has been "gazetted."

The revival of Spontini's 'Olympia' at Berlin, on the birthday of the King of Prussia, is described as having attracted an eager crowd. Had such an event taken place in the lifetime of the composer, it is more than probable that the same multitude would have stayed away:—so extreme was his unpopularity, and so contradictory is the public of the Prussian metropolis.—The King has recently presented a gold medal to Herr Naumann (we presume, the rising composer whose Oratorio was mentioned two years ago in the *Athenæum*, No. 1112), in acknowledgment of the dedication of a setting of the Twenty-third Psalm.

The Countess of Landsfeld has returned to public life, by exhibiting certain dances at the Theatre Minard, at Ghent. Her performance, say the foreign journals, was very rudely received by a crowded audience.—A more artistically-trained *danseuse*, Mdlle. Bagdanoff, was to make her *début* at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris on Monday last.

MISCELLANEA

Dr. Leichardt's Party.—It is stated from Singapore, that the Pioneer, one of the vessels engaged by the Government of New South Wales to call at Port Essington to make inquiries for Dr. Leichardt's Party, and leave supplies for them, has not succeeded in fulfilling its mission, having suffered shipwreck in Torres Straits. All the information regarding this occurrence which has reached Singapore is contained in the following statement, made by one of the seamen of the vessel, who had reached that town from Batavia.—"Thomas Gallagher, able seaman on board the brig Pioneer, states that the above vessel was wrecked on the Cockburn Reef, in Torres Straits, about half-past four o'clock in the evening on the 30th of May last, from Sydney to Booby Island and Port Essington, to look after Dr. Leichardt. The crew was brought by the bark Waverley, of London, to Batavia. Captain Morgan, of the Waverley, kept the starboard shore all the way up, and did not sight the coast of Australia after leaving Booby Island. I did not hear anything about tents being seen on the coast of Australia. I arrived here from Batavia in the Ellenora. I never heard any account of Dr. Leichardt. We had provisions on board the Pioneer to be landed at Booby Island and at Port Essington. I heard in Sydney that there were tents seen at Port Essington about four years ago, and that the natives drove the people away. The people were sent there by the Government of Sydney; they all came back to Sydney."

Archæological Discovery.—St. Peter's Hungate Church, one of the oldest in the city of Norwich, being built in 1468, is now undergoing reparation and partial restoration. During the progress of the works, the workmen, on removing a quantity of boarding and matting from the south of the pulpit, discovered the remains of what was originally a very splendid, though small chapel, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. The portions which have been laid open are a sedilia and piscina, a portion of the altar stone, and the greater part of the canopy. The colours of the canopy and sedilia—gold, purple, and scarlet—are still very plainly traceable. In the chapel is also a monument to the Rev. Walter Paston, who died at Paston's palace, in this parish, not many years after the erection of the church. Figures of the Evangelists were found buried under a mass of rubbish in the south porch. They have been replaced, as well as a carved stone pedestal on which formerly stood the vase containing holy water.—*Norfolk Chronicle.*

To Correspondents.—A Chip of the Block—M. A. S.—W. J. L.—C. & D.—M. H.—S. G.—received.

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MR. THOMAS RICHARDS, PRINTER, (late of St. Martin's-lane,) begs particularly to direct attention to his present Address, 37, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS. As Agent for the Hakluyt and Percy Societies, he begs to request that all communications intended for him may be sent to Great Queen-street.

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2, Amen-corner, October 30th.

GRATIS.—T. MILLARD, 70, Newgate-street, has just published a CATALOGUE of MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS, which may be had on application; also, a Catalogue of Unitarian and Metaphysical, &c.—Libraries purchased or exchanged.

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Aberdeen, 1st Sept. 1851.

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REVIEWS

GREAT EXHIBITION.

Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue. By Authority of the Royal Commission. 3 vols. Spicer Brothers, and W. Clowes & Sons.

THIS has been a memorable year for England. At her invitation the world has poured its works of Industry upon her shores. From every corner of the globe the more remarkable efforts of thought have been entrusted to her care and submitted to her judgement. The year of the Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations will in the future shine like a star from amid the night of the past; by whose rays men will be guided onward and directed in their efforts to subdue nature and apply the works of creation to purposes of use and ornament. Now that the wondrous scene has closed, and the tramp of the receding nations is dying on the ear,—we can at length sit down to contemplate calmly the event and philosophize on the wondrous gathering.

There are few of our readers who have not felt how almost impossible it was to do this in presence of the great fact itself. When men could enter the Industrial Palace, and survey the marvels which it held—sublimely exhibiting the superiority of mind over all material nature, yet bewildering the intellect by its vastness and their variety,—it demanded an effort which was constantly defeated to isolate a group and study its peculiarities. As to those who look into a magic mirror a single object seen for a moment in individual distinctness is superseded by others equally attractive, that gradually develope themselves on the reflecting surface, until at length a crowd of images appear to struggle over the optic field,—so, thought became here baffled by her own multitudinous materials, and finally succumbended up her rule to the influence of a thoroughly excited and eager curiosity.

There is a very beautiful physico-physiological speculation which supposes that every image which is pictured on the retina of the eye is impressed as on a photographic tablet, —and that by the excitation of the nervous system these images can be reproduced upon that sensitive surface by the operation of the mind, and thus recalled to memory. In a select number and a certain order of minds this power is a remarkable phenomenon, and the mental reproduction is perfect; but to the vast majority the pictures drawn upon the mind are painted in fading colours, and unless occasionally refreshed they vanish and disappear. So great and so good have been all the influences awakened by the International Exhibition, that it becomes a duty of more than ordinary importance by every possible medium to seek for the maintenance and continuation of these. The moral and physical harmonies that for every day of more than five months combined beneath the crystal roof in one grand choral hymn, from which the nations drank knowledge like an inspiration, must have their echoes prolonged by every available means. A few weeks more, and of the visible glories of this Great Exhibition but a visible wreck will remain. Memory, as we have said, may reproduce—and will—many a picturesque Section and selected object; but less uncertain records are required to inform us of the actual value, industrial and scientific, of those contributions from every quarter of the world which we have seen assembled in Hyde Park.

In the 'Official, Descriptive, and Illustrated Catalogue' we have such a record. The work is without a precedent in the annals of literature; and when we regard the circumstances of difficulty that surrounded the task of its execution, the praise bestowed on those who undertook it can scarcely be too great. The Contractors, in that enlarged spirit which appears to have entered into all that belonged to the Exhibition, engaged men of reputation and authority in every department of science and manufacture to contribute such descriptive notes as should render the work eminently instructive. It, thus, contains a body of annotations which express the condition of human knowledge and the state of the world's industry in 1851:—and is a document of the utmost importance, as a summary report of this vast international "stock-taking," which no great library—nor any gentleman's library, of those who aim at the collection of literary standards—can hereafter be without. It is not a work of a day, a month, or a year:—it is for all time. Centuries hence it will be referred to as authority on the condition to which man had arrived at the period of its publication. It is at once a great Trade Directory, informing us where we are to seek for any particular kind of manufacture—a Natural History, recording the localities of almost every variety of native production—and a Cyclopædia, describing how far science has ministered to the necessities of humanity, by what effort the crude products of the earth have been converted into articles of utility or made the medium of that refined expression which belongs to the province of creative Art.

Let it not be thought that because the Exhibition is over it has fulfilled its purposes. It stands to the world in precisely the same relation as do the philosopher and his works. The individual will die; but the thoughts which have been born of him, the truths which he has discovered, live on generating and kindling other thoughts and truths. The Exhibition has lived its allotted time, and died; but this Catalogue is the sum of the thoughts and truths to which it has given birth,—and which form the intellectual ground whereon the generations that we are not to see must build.

To test the character of this record, we purpose taking the Catalogue as it now stands, and directing attention to a few of the more remarkable points in each Class and from each country which are therein described, —showing the value of the information given,—and indicating the importance of the more novel discoveries which have been already perfected, or which may be regarded as merely valuable indications.

To commence with Class I.—We cannot but feel that, although there were 534 exhibitors of British Mining and Mineral Products, the display was far short of being fairly illustrative of the mineral wealth of our islands. At the same time, very many of the specimens exhibited show the characters of the ores which were industrially valuable; and some of the series were very complete in themselves. The first volume of the Catalogue and the notes appended will, however, show perhaps more completely than any other publication the actual value of our mineral produce. The collection of iron ores exhibited—particularly the very extensive series collected by Mr. S. H. Blackwell, illustrated by his communication to the Catalogue—afforded by far the best account of our iron-producing capabilities that has ever existed in the kingdom. It is satisfactory to know that the exhibition of iron in its various stages of manufacture, and in all its varied qualities, has already attracted the attention of the Continent to its importance,—and that we may fairly calculate on a very large increase in our exports even within the present year. The same Section furnishes us with much information on the building and ornamental stones of these islands,—and on the varieties of cements which are employed as binding agents or for purposes of ornamentation. The more important matters connected with this Class were, however, the illustrations of the processes by which metallurgical operations are facilitated or material economized. Of the latter character were the processes of Mr. Longmaid for the separation of silver from copper ore when even the quantity is exceedingly small,—and that of Mr. Oxland for removing wolfram from tin, which is very much deteriorated by the admixture:—the compounds of tungsten formed in the process being available as a mordant for calico printers and dyers. The very beautiful process of Mr. Pattinson for desilverizing lead, —and that of Mr. Brockedon for compressing plumbago, and thus forming black lead for pencils of a very superior and uniform character—have been sufficiently long before the public to make all acquainted with their value.

The Chemical Section connects itself in a peculiar manner with the metallurgical one; and we find that the most striking illustrations of the applications of chemical science are shown in the illustrations of the manufacture of alum from the alum slate,—the formation of stannate of soda directly from tin ore,—and the production of paraffine from coal. The illustrations of the peat products in Class I. were of a similar character to this; and of peculiar interest, as these have been the subject of long and anxious discussion,—happily, however, we hope, terminated by the Official Report of Sir Robert Kane. The notes appended to the Chemical Section of the Catalogue have considerable value, as communicating within a short space a large amount of useful information. The Classes which embrace Substances used as Food and Vegetable and Animal Substances used in Manufacture are in some interesting divisions connected with the Class of Chemical Products, &c. The preparation of osmazone—the purification of sugar, and its preparation from beet-root—the preservation of gluten—and the manufacture of gelatine and starch—together with the entire process of malting, and the subsequent fermentation in the formation of beer—are all essentially dependent on Chemistry. In the preparation of substances used in manufacture we find again that chemical operations are constantly demanded, and superior chemical knowledge continually required. The jurors of Class IV. have awarded a council medal to Mr. Mercer for his peculiar mode of preparing cotton cloth. This process was, however, exhibited in Class XVIII. It consists in subjecting cotton to the action of caustic soda of suitable strength and at a proper temperature; by which operation the fibres are contracted and filled,—and thus thin and coarse cloth is converted into strong and fine, while it is, at the same time, improved for receiving colour in either printing or dyeing. These colours are rendered much more permanent by the change.

Again, the Chevalier Clausen's process for the preparation of flax, by which it is adapted for several uses to which it has not been hitherto applicable, is essentially chemical. The flax is saturated with a solution of soda, by which gluten is removed,—and the spaces between the fibres constituting the straw are impregnated with this alkali. In a subsequent stage of the process the flax is submitted to the action of carbonic acid, —carbonic acid is liberated from the carbonate of soda employed,—and by its mechanical action the flax fibre is converted into a cotton-like substance. The advantages of this

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are many; and in particular it promises to extend the uses of this material, so that it may be employed in combination with cotton, silk, and wool in the preparation of new varieties of textile fabrics which will be exceedingly useful.

The Catalogue reminds us of the value of a collection which is, we believe, now, by the liberal gift of the collector, the property of the nation. In the contribution of the Messrs. Lawson we have a very complete, instructive, and scientifically arranged collection of the vegetable products of Scotland. We hope to see before many years shall have elapsed a similar collection from the other divisions of the United Kingdom:—which would form a museum of the highest interest and of the utmost educational value.

In this Catalogue the lists given by the Messrs. Harrison, Messrs. Fountleroy, and Mr. Cross of the English and foreign woods used in manufacture are of great importance. It is a curious fact, that the plants which produce many of the woods imported into this country, that are used by our turners and cabinet-makers, and displayed in the Messrs. Fountleroy's admirable collection, are unknown to English botanists. Of an analogous character to these —but from the variety of articles included in the series placed in Class XXIX., devoted to miscellaneous manufactures,—the collection of the samples of foreign articles imported into Liverpool within the last five years must not be forgotten. More than thirteen pages of the Catalogue are devoted to this important collection:—which has been most admirably classified by Mr. J. C. Archer. The commercial and scientific names or designations are given,—the class in order to which individually the animal and vegetable products belong is stated,—the places whence imported, the uses to which the import is applied, and the quantity received in 1850, are marked:—thus furnishing a mass of commercial information which would not have been obtained under any other circumstances than those of the Great Exhibition. The value of such a collection is shown by the fact that it contains one sample of heyescine—the hydroborate of lime—of which a small quantity was imported into Liverpool a few years since from Peru. The supply of boracic acid not being at all equal to the demand, other sources than those already known are eagerly sought after,—and the preservation of this sample may possibly lead to our obtaining boraxmore abundantly than we have hitherto done. All Europe is at present supplied from the boracic lagunes of Tuscany,—a comparatively small quantity of tincal and borax being imported from the East Indies. It is with regret that we learn that the Catalogue will probably be the only record of this valuable collection. We earnestly hope, however, that Liverpool will not allow the specimens of her imports to be lost for all useful purposes in the boxes to which they are now in progress of being consigned.—The imports of Hull, although not so extensive as those of Liverpool, are still valuable as showing the trade in particular articles at the time of their collection.

Nearly one hundred pages of this closely printed Catalogue are devoted to classified lists and descriptions of the contributions from India to the Great Exhibition. The importance of these—and indeed of any similar collection—historically, scientifically, and commercially, are well explained in the opening paragraphs of the Indian Catalogue.—

"India, vast in extent and diversified in surface, is remarkable as the cradle of one, at least, of the nations who earliest practised the arts and cultivated the sciences which characterize civilization, and from whence these travelled to the West, and, perhaps, also to the East. Its present inhabitants continue to remote ancients which they know only by name, and practise arts of which they know not the principles; and this with a skill not only remarkable for the early period at which it attained perfection, but also for the manner in which it has remained stationary for so many ages. But when Commerce was in its infancy, or dealt only in the most precious commodities, these arts could not have been practised unless India had contained within itself all the raw materials which Art could convert into useful articles or elegant ornaments. Without cotton, the so-called 'webs of woven air' could have had no existence. Without numerous barks, woods, and flowers, dyeing could not have been practised, and calico-printing would probably not have been invented. If an Indigofera had not been indigenous, indigo would never have derived its name from India, nor have afforded us the proof, in the strips of mummy-cloth, of the early commercial intercourse between its native country and Egypt. Neither would sugar have been arranged by the Greeks with honeys, nor the Indians described as those who 'libant tenera dulces in mundine succos,' unless they had had the cane-like saccharum as a plant of their country. Neither in Persia would the proverb of 'giving an Indian answer,' have been considered equivalent to 'giving with an Indian sword, unless the Hindoos had possessed the ore which enabled them to manufacture their far-famed wootz steel; and gunpowder is likely to have been invented at an early age only in a country where 'villanous saltpetre' is abundant. Besides these, India possesses an immense number, both of animal and of vegetable, as well as of mineral substances, well fitted for arts and manufactures of every kind; and the country has often been described as capable of producing, within its own limits, almost all the useful products of every other quarter of the globe. There appear only two available methods by which a manufacturer can be made acquainted with the existence of foreign products likely to be used in his business; one is, by the collection of such information as is obtainable respecting them, and arranging it according to the most prominent properties of such substances. When these are so arranged, it is comparatively easy for any one to ascertain whether India, or any other foreign country, contains any useful or ornamental product which might be employed instead of, and be cheaper than, that already in use. But with the most simple arrangement and clearly-conveyed information the manufacturer generally would feel little interest about unknown natural products and their strange names, unless he had an opportunity of seeing and of personally examining them. Then a glance of his practised eye, or the slightest handling of a new substance, informs him whether it is likely to be of use for his purposes. The collection, therefore, of such substances, and arranging them also, as above, according to their properties, is the only method calculated at once to interest the public and to give such confidence to the manufacturer as to induce him to submit them to trial. Their exhibition, therefore, is calculated not only to be of great use to the manufacturer, but of essential benefit to such countries as possess many little-known products possessed of valuable properties, and procurable in large quantities at a cheap rate, if a demand could be created for them."

As an apt illustration of this, we need refer only to the introduction of Gutta Percha,—which has been, as our readers know, within a very few years applied to a great variety of the most useful purposes. The introduction of the so-called Vegetable Tallow—which is, indeed, a true wax—promises to be nearly as important. Both these substances were until recently unknown to our merchants and manufacturers.—The East Indian Catalogue contains an amount of information which could not have been collected except under those favourable circumstances that appear to have presided over every stage of the Exhibition's progress. Every article is classified,—its scientific name and synonym are given,—the places where obtained are named,—and in many cases the amount exported is stated. The descriptions of the manufactured articles are very full and numerous,—industrial operations are very clearly described. The Observations on the Arts and Manufactures of India by which the enumeration of the articles in the Indian department is accompanied should be attentively read. They convey within a short space a large quantity of such information as we require. For example, take the following,—

"In commissioning fine muslins from Dacca, ample time should be given for their manufacture. The time required for the preparation of a piece varies from one to four months, according to the quality of the fabric, the latter being the period necessary for the weaving of a half-piece of Mulmul Khas. The best season for making this kind of muslin is during the months of May, June, July, and August. If several pieces of the finer kind were to be manufactured, a full year's notice would be required in order to procure the necessary quantity of thread."

The portions of the 'Catalogue' which are devoted to our other colonial possessions are no less important in the facts which they enumerate and the information which they convey.—The Channel Islands, Malta and the Ionian Islands have contributed their raw materials and manufactures;—and these are well followed up by the British Possessions in Africa and in America. Mr. Robert Ellis, the editor,—of the extreme difficulties of whose task, ably overcome, we shall eventually speak,—remarks:—

"The distinguishing feature of all the contributions to the Exhibition sent from the dependencies of Great Britain is, the predominance of raw material and produce over manufacture and arts. There is much that is suggestive in this fact. The early development of the prosperity of every country or colony is always necessarily more directly dependent on its natural products, and their application, than on the industrial arts."

—It was with a feeling of this truth that we associated the consideration of the contributions from our Colonial Possessions with the first four Classes of the Exhibition. Next week we hope to continue our examination through the other Classes — properly manufacturing — and the Foreign States:—to which last the third volume of the Catalogue is entirely devoted.

None of our colonies have forwarded a more interesting collection than Canada; and the catalogue of this and the annotations appended have a permanent interest. In particular, the note on the mineral produce of Canada is full of information:—showing that the only thing wanting to render Canada important in metallurgical operations is coal. Iron, copper, lead, zinc, and nickel are abundant in several of the townships; and native gold exists in the debris of the eastern townships, along the south-eastern side of the Green Mountain range. There is, however, some promise of coal in New Brunswick and in Nova Scotia:—if produced in any quantity and of good quality, Canada will be materially benefited,—as that province might then be enabled to smelt its minerals with economy and bring them into the European markets.

The Catalogue contains much interesting information relative to the products of Barbadoes, Trinidad, and the Bahamas. British Guiana has furnished a truly valuable Catalogue,—which may be referred to as affording an excellent natural history of this interesting colony. The same may be stated—although not to the same extent—of the contributions and Catalogue of British Possessions in Australasia.

In concluding this section of our examination of this remarkable publication, we should state that the History of the Exhibition is contributed by Mr. Henry Cole,—the construction of the Building in Hyde Park is described by Mr. Digby Wyatt:

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—and both these essays are of a very satisfactory character. There is also a valuable general classification of the objects in the Exhibition,—the compilation of Dr. Lyon Playfair, from the information obtained by those best informed in each one of the thirty Classes into which the Exhibition was divided. This is a skeleton which we should be glad to see endowed with life. The philosophy of the Great Exhibition might be extracted from it by a skilful hand. The Catalogue furnishes all necessary materials for such a work; which would be an excellent companion to this more hulky publication and an invaluable commentary if competently executed.

The alphabetical and classified lists of the names of the exhibitors, and of the things exhibited, which preface the Catalogue are very convenient; and we may state that the three volumes contain 1,200 illustrations, the merits of which we shall deal with on another occasion. It will be evident from what has been already stated that a more important contribution to a commercial country than the 'Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue of the Great Exhibition' could scarcely have been offered;—and this will be yet more strikingly shown when we come to the consideration of the manufacturing sections and of the contributions of Foreign States. Regardless of expense, this work has been completed by the aid of a band of no fewer than twenty-six annotators selected, as we have said, from eminent professors of science, and skilled manufacturers. In addition to these and independently of the editor's staff of assistants, some ten other gentlemen were called on to furnish technical information and lend the assistance of their knowledge:—so that all possible means have been taken to render the 'Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue' worthy of the wonderful gathering of which it is the permanent record.

English Songs, and other Small Poems. By Barry Cornwall. A New Edition, with Additions. Chapman & Hall.

The additions to this delightful volume do not amount to much more than five-and-twenty pages; and among these most of the minor poems have already appeared in periodicals, —and many of them have been given to our readers. The book, however, still contains enough of sterling gold in its new matter to make something more than simple announcement welcome. How thoughtful and musical, for instance, is the following poem, which is entirely new to us.—

Once I wandered with a Dream.
Where'er I went, by wood or stream,
On sunny days, in stormy weather,
My dream and I were still together.
When I was young my dream was young,
And when I on my mother hung
With school-boy eyes that ran in streams,
How mournful was my dream of dreams!
So ran Time!

And when, at last,
I grew into a youth, and cast
My cradle pleasures half aside,
And rose from tears to blushing pride,
Ever did my dream and I
Together like two lovers wander,
And sometimes sigh and sometimes ponder,
Graver than in infancy;—
My dream, men told me, *never* true!
Yet,—so it was, we grew and grew,
Each loving now a sterner theme,
More subtle thoughts, more bold opinions,
Whilst higher in the heavenly blue,
On airier, more ambitious pinions,
Would rise—and rise—my dream!

My dream, they said, was never true.
And yet I dream'd of Truth—of things
Beyond the circling of the spheres,
Of haunts wherein the angel sings
For ever to Almighty ears.
Beyond the clouds,—beyond the thunder,
Beyond the planets over head,
Impetuous, daring, wild with wonder,
My dream and I together fled:—
Fled,—but soon return'd to earth,
Our gentle home, our place of birth,
Where still the unlearned poet dreams,
Of humble wrongs and household themes.
Not starry-crowned, nor hid in steel,
Not wandering on infernal shore,
His simple Muse, content to feel
What is and was, asks nothing more
When her voice doth echo truly,—
Nothing, save to touch us duly
With the sadness of her story:—
This is all her glory!

And men say that thou art vain?—
Child of folly?—sinful Pain?—
No: they err, who thus arraign.
No:—the God who giveth reason,
Armed for a severer theme,
In our sunny, soaring season,
Crowns us with a dream;—
Bids us then drink in the sound
Of the wild wind whispering round,—
Bids us read the rose's leaf
For its moral, sweet and brief,—
Bids us listen, as we walk
By the murmuring of the sea,
To the soft, sweet Muse's talk
Of all that was and is to be.
True?—ay, true as are the flowers,
True as spring or winter rain,
True as are the starry hours
Are the children of the brain.
Heed not from what cell unknown
The wild imagination springs,
Nor where the Phœnix burns alone,
Nor where the dying cygnet sings;
The splendour of the stars is here,
The music of the rain and wind,
The song of birds, at eve and morn,
The perfume with the violet born;—
Here, too, the Soul's creations,—clear
Unto the willing mind.
The beauty and the worth of things
Take not their common outward shape
At all times, but will oft escape
In subtler, airier forms and sounds,
From the heart's profounder springs.
And these, like visions shown of old
To Prophets in the Hebrew days,
Reveal not to the vain and cold
Their nature, nor to vulgar gaze
Appear with kind familiar eyes,
But shine alone on good and wise.

—You and I were born together,
O my love, my Dream!
You and I have sail'd together
Adown Life's stream.
Through the sun and stormy weather
We have laugh'd and wept together:
Never did the wrath of June
Harm us with its burning noon:
Never did the Winter's rime
Chill us in our braver time.
Tell me,—O ye worldly Sages,
Toiling all for golden wages,
Lawyers subtle, grave physicians,
Skilful reckoners, sound logicians,
What deem'd ye, in age or youth,
The one great philosophic Truth?—
What was still your aim?—
Love?—or power?—wealth?—or fame?—
Tell me,—now that day is closing,
And your minds are calm, reposing
From the weary task of Life;
After all the storm and strife
And the struggle in the stream,
Tell me,—who hath aught beside him
Truer than a dream?

There is abundance of good matter too, in the "familiar Epistle" to a brother Poet,—which is here for the first time printed. Its dates, however, ranging betwixt 1839 and 1850, remind us in the most tantalizing fashion possible of the flight of Time, by illustrating how scanty and interrupted have been the singing hours of one of England's sweetest singers. We would fain look forward to something more important than "additions" to a pocket volume of verse from Barry Cornwall. Be the causes what they may, his silence is to be regretted by all true lovers of poetry,—especially when their regrets are quickened by such snatches of melody as the following.—

If Life be ever pleasant,
'Tis in merry hours like this,
When the wine is old and sound,
And the laugh is running round;
When each maiden mouth discloses
Buds of pearl in beds of roses,
Roses that we fain would kiss.

If Life be ever gloomy,
'Tis as when we, long ago,
Saw the friend we loved so well,
Swiftly borne to debtor's cell;
And not one of us could lend him
Gold or silver, or befriend him;
Scarce had time to soothe his woe.

Ah! Life has many changes,
Sunny seasons, winter rains;
So let's pluck the Summer flower,
Bravely front the frowning hour,
Cherish all who'd fain befriend us,
Whether good or ill attend us,
Long as life remains.

The Island World of the Pacific; being the Personal Narrative and Results of Travel through the Sandwich or Hawaiian Islands, and other Parts of Polynesia. By the Rev. Henry T. Cheever. Glasgow, Collins.

Life in the Sandwich Islands; or, the Heart of the Pacific, as It was and as It is. By the Rev. Henry T. Cheever. Bentley.

These two works by the same author—an American clergyman, we believe,—consist of a mass of undigested matter relating chiefly to the Sandwich Islands, and which might easily have been condensed into one small volume, instead of being thrown before the public in two separate heaps. The author's main purpose seems to have been, to give an account of the progress which Christian missions have made in the islands in question, and of the changes produced by the instrumentality of these missions in the character and social habits of the natives. While ostensibly pursuing this object, however, he has but too clearly gratified an independent propensity towards book-making. Over and above the accounts of the labours of missionaries, we have in these volumes miscellaneous scraps of all kinds:—descriptions of scenery and natural productions,—memoranda of tours and voyages,—moral reflections and dissertations,—disquisitions on volcanic agency and the formation of coral reefs,—tables of exports and imports,—and quotations in almost every page from English and American poets. All these things are not wrought together into any very clear and equable narrative, pleasant for continuous perusal; but introduced without any attempt at arrangement, so as to increase to the utmost the number of printed pages. To make books of this kind instructive, it is above all things necessary that the author should proceed according to some *system*, determining the order in which he shall dispose the matter that he means to convey to his reader. When no better system can be devised, the chronological one is always tolerably suitable:—in other words, that plan which converts the book into a narrative of personal travel and adventure, presenting the matter to the reader precisely in the order in which it was originally presented to the observation of the writer. A higher species of art in the arrangement of such works, however, is that according to which the writer, having first accumulated to himself all the materials regarding the foreign country that he means to describe, proceeds to set forth these materials in successive portions, so as gradually to build up in the reader's mind the completed image of the country and its people.—First, for example, Mr. Cheever might have given a geographical and geological survey of the Sandwich Islands, including a view of their natural features; then he might have sketched their history, and the state of native society which they presented before any systematic attempts had been made by civilized men to improve their condition; next he might have narrated the early beginnings and continued progress of missionary efforts;—finally passing on to a detailed account, illustrated by the writer's personal observations, of the improved state of society that has resulted from these ameliorating influences. Nothing of this kind has he attempted. Passages and anecdotes of considerable interest do occur in his volumes; and, on the whole, the reader will find in them no small amount of material out of which to prepare for himself some picture of the Sandwich Islands

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and their inhabitants. But as literary performances—bearing, too, such attractive titles—these volumes are by no means creditable to Mr. Cheever's notion of what a book ought to be. This is the more to be regretted as he writes in an easy and lively manner,—and could evidently make a good book if he were less bent on book-making.

The following geographical survey and classification of the various groups of islands constituting what is called the Island-world occurs at the beginning of one of the volumes.—

"The island-world of the Pacific is presented to our contemplation in a great variety of interesting aspects and relations. The vast ocean in which it is imbosomed, sweeping in latitude from pole to pole, and rolling in longitude over a whole hemisphere, exceeds the area of all the continents and islands of the globe, by ten millions of miles. Dotting it here and there, like stars in the air-ocean above, there are about 680 islands of Oceanica, exclusive of New Holland, New Zealand, New Caledonia, New Ireland, and the Salomons. Yet such is the relative disproportion to the continental world, of these small islands of the deep, to which the winged messengers of Commerce and Christianity are now eagerly flying on every breeze, that they are estimated to contain but 40,000 square miles, or less than the single State of New York; and their population, by latest estimates, is but little over 500,000. Within 10,000,000 of square miles, the whole surface exposed above the water, exclusive of New Zealand, does not exceed 80,000 square miles. Latest French geographers, and the authors of the learned quartos on the Ethnography and Geology of Oceanica, attached to the United States Exploring Squadron, divide this vast realm of ocean and island into five portions:—First. Australia, including the Continent of New Holland and Van Diemen's Land. Second. Melanesia, comprising all that part of Oceanica inhabited by a dark-skinned race, with woolly or frizzled hair. It includes New Guinea and adjacent islands, New Britain, New Ireland, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, the Feejees and Salomon Islands. Third. Malaisia; the name applied to the islands of the East Indian Seas, occupied by the yellow Malay race, including Sumatra, Borneo, Java, Celebes, Philippine Isles, and Sooloo Group. Fourth. Micronesia; the name given to the long range of little groups and strips of coral rock and sand, scattered over the Pacific, to the north of the equator, and east of the Philippines, including the Pelew and Kingmill Groups. Fifth. Polynesia; this designates the islands of Oceanica nearest to America, inhabited by light coloured tribes allied to the Malaisan, and all speaking in dialects of one general language. It is with this division of Oceanica only that we have to do in the present volume. Polynesia proper includes — 1. The Navigator's Islands, otherwise called Samoa, having a population of 56,000. 2. Friendly Islands, or Tonga Group, with a population of 18,000. 3. New Zealand, with a population of 180,000. 4. Society Islands, or Tahitian Group, having a population of 18 or 20,000. 5. Hervey Islands. The population estimated by Mr. Williams at 14,000. 6. Austral Islands, named Rimatara, Rurutu, Tubuai, Raivavia, and Rapa, once populous, now supposed to contain but 1,000. The first of these islands I visited and explored in a whale-ship, and have estimated its population at 400. 7. Gambier Group. Population 2,000. 8. Paumotu Group, having 8,000. 9. Marquesas, or Washington Group, estimated to contain 20,000, being the least Christianized, or weaned from cannibalism and barbarity of all Polynesia. 10. Sandwich or Hawaiian Group. Estimated population before the late decimation by measles, 100,000; now reduced, as by census of 1849, to 80,641."

Of the Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands, in particular, the following is a summary account.

"These Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands, so called by the English in honour of Lord Sandwich, were first made known to the rest of the world, at least to the commercial part, through their discovery of them by Capt. Cook, in the month of January, 1778. On the authority of Humboldt, in the late work entitled 'Cosmos,' Gaetano, a Spaniard, discovered one of the Sandwich Islands in the year 1542. But the discovery was not prosecuted, and little or nothing was known of it till the voyage of Cook.

Placed far amid the melancholy main,

and lying on the direct route to India from the modern, perhaps the ancient Ophir, this island cluster, having eight summits properly forms the Ararat of the North Pacific. They lie between the meridians of 155 and 160½ west longitude and between the parallels of 19 and 22½ north latitude; about 1,800 miles from California, north-east; 5,000 from China, west; 5,000 from South America, south-east; 2,700 from the Society Islands on the south. The names of those inhabited, taken as they lie in order from south-east to north-west, are, Hawaii, Maui, Kahoolawe, Lanai, Molokai, Oahu, Kouai, Niihau, embracing an area of about 6,100 square miles. They extend, in a curved line, 400 miles, and would appear to be the summits of two parallel ranges of mountains, or volcanic centres, of which the volcanoes, Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, in Hawaii, are the south-eastern extremities. * * When these islands first came to be inhabited can not be conjectured: whence, is probable. Tradition reaches not to their origin, although curious fables of Hawaiian cosmogony do. But the natives preserve the genealogy of seventy-three kings, have the names of some of the South Pacific islands, knew the direction of the Society's Islands, the nearest inhabited group, and have tales of their ancestors' coming thence; and their language is a dialect of the one great family of Polynesian tongues. * * The human constitution, it is evident, had attained to great perfection at the Sandwich Islands, and, their barbarism and sensuality to the contrary notwithstanding, there was high physical health and beauty before it was poisoned and marred by the mixture of abandoned foreigners, and the fresh provocatives to profligacy thereby given. The reverse is now painfully true; for disease is rife, and there is evidence of fatal, we fear irremediable, detriment having been done to the native constitution. Still, the physical aspect of Hawaiians, as a race, is pleasing. Their complexion is a clear olive brown, like that of the Spanish gipsy, or as near in colour to the kernel of an English walnut as anything we are familiar with. They call themselves Kaulu, the red skin, in contrast with the Keokeo race, or white skin. Their features would make them to be classed by physiologists with the Malay division of the human family, from which, doubtless, they have sprung. They have generally thick lips and large nostrils, but the nose is not flat, nor the hair woolly, but uniformly straight and black. They have rather high cheek bones, like the North American Indian, and the erect European forehead, certainly not depressed or retreating, as one of the Sandwich Island histories erroneously characterizes it. The national Hawaiian head is of a good size, and phrenologically well shaped, though it has a rather unduly large base, and is flattened and straight at the back. This unnatural flatness of the occiput is thought to be owing to the way the mother holds her babe, which is by the left hand, supporting the back of its head. Frequently, too, they lay its little head on a hard gourd-shell on purpose to flatten it; and the way of all Hawaiians, when sleeping, is to lie upon the back, which tends to keep the skull of the form given it in childhood. It is deemed becoming to a man to have his hair very short behind; and manly beauty, in their view, depends more upon the *plane figure* and breadth of the occiput than upon the height and fulness of the forehead. We have often heard them wonder at what they deem the fondness of foreigners for round heads. In person the Hawaiians are well formed, large limbed, and somewhat taller than the average of Americans. The race of the high chiefs especially was large, athletic, and finely proportioned."

After their discovery by Capt. Cook these islands remained for about forty years in very nearly their original savage condition;—the intercourse which their inhabitants had with such European ships as touched at them contributing very little to their civilization, but rather injuring them by the introduction of vices and diseases till then unknown. It was not till the year 1819-20 that any systematic effort was made to remedy this state of things. In that year some American missionaries established themselves in the islands,—and from time to time these have been succeeded by others bent on the same object. Within thirty years the whole face of the Sandwich Islands has been changed:—the habits and manners of civilized life having superseded the barbarous and cruel customs formerly universal. One of the most remarkable achievements of the missionaries has been, the establishment of a written literature on the basis of the native Hawaiian language.—This language

"is simple in its structure, and very easy and uniform both in its orthography and pronunciation. Aside from the facile genius of the tongue, this is owing to the good sense and judgment of the missionaries who first reduced it to writing. They admitted no silent letters, and adopted the uniform Spanish designation of the vowel-sounds. Hence, as in that beautiful language, a, e, i, o, and u, always have each but one, and its own sound, varied only by quantity: so that, unlike what is found in the English and French, the language is spelt and pronounced just as it is written, and *vice versâ*. Any one that has a knowledge of the Spanish at once slides into the pronunciation of the Hawaiian vowels. The variety of only twelve letters expresses every Hawaiian sound, by reason of which, and the constant repetition of vowel terminations, the language to foreigners sounds monotonous. Also, no word ever ends in a consonant, nor can two consonant sounds come together, but a vowel is always interposed. Thus, an Hawaiian, in writing or pronouncing Boston, London, Bedford, will say Bosetona, Lonedona, Bedefoda. Some of the idioms are very peculiar and curious. There is no auxiliary verb 'to be,' nor any word to express the abstract idea of being or existence. Good idiomatic Hawaiian is, therefore, in short sentences, or clauses thereof, and the same word may be a noun or a verb, according to the sense to be expressed, without change. This, and the destitution of general terms, while specific ones are numerous, constitutes a state of the language favourable to the art of poetry. There are no variations in nouns for case, number, or person; but the mood and tenses of verbs are pretty clearly distinguished by simple prefixes and suffixes. The mode of conjugating verbs, the existence of a causative form, and the derivation of words from roots of two syllables, are thought to indicate a resemblance and cognate origin with the Hebrew and other Oriental tongues."

The arts of reading and writing are now very generally known among the natives:—young couples being obliged to produce certificates of attendance at the mission-schools when they desire to enter into the marriage state. Mr. Cheever gives some interesting specimens of the native epistolary correspondence of these educated Hawaiians. Here, for example, is a love-letter from a Hawaiian student to his native sweetheart.—

"'Love to thee, by reason of whom my heart sleeps not night nor day, all the days of my dwelling here. O thou beautiful one, for whom my love shall never cease. Here also is this—at the time I heard you were going to Wailuku, I was enveloped in exceeding great love. And when I heard you had really gone, great was my regret for you, and exceeding great my love. My appearance was like a sick person who cannot answer when spoken to. I would not go down to the sea again, because I supposed you had not returned. I feared lest I should see all the places where you and I had conversed together and walked together, and I should fall in the streets on account of the greatness of my love to you. I however did go down, and I was continually longing with love to you. Your father said to me, Won't you eat with us? I refused, saying I was full. But the truth was I had eat nothing. My great love to you, that was the thing which could alone satisfy me. Presently, however, I went to the place of K——, and there I heard you had arrived, I was a little refreshed by hearing this. But my eyes still hung down. I longed to see you, but could not find you, though I waited till dark. Now, while I am writing, my tears are dropping down for you; now my tears are my friends, and my affection to you. O thou who wilt for ever be loved. Here also is this:

consent though to my desire, and write me, that I may know your love. My love to thee is great, thou splendid flower of Lanakahula.'"

Though a missionary, Mr. Cheever is a thorough American,—and it is in the American spirit that he has penned this passage.—

"This at least we may rationally conjecture, that it is for some great and wise end, which may soon appear, that the heart of the Pacific has been so wonderfully prepared by Divine Providence and Grace. As an admitted voluntary member of the American confederacy, it may soon become the great missionary printing depôt for Eastern Asia, Japan, and its archipelago of islands, whence the word of God and the living missionary teacher shall make their grand entry into those wide realms of paganism, by a line of trans-Pacific American steamers."

—The Sandwich Islands, therefore, on the one side, if not Cuba on the other, will soon, it would seem, be annexed to America.

A Descriptive and Historical Account of the Cotton Manufacture of Dacca, in Bengal. By a former Resident in Dacca. Mortimer.

The beautiful and delicate muslins from Dacca which have formed so prominent a feature in the Indian Department at the Exhibition have again directed attention, in some measure, towards that peculiar district and branch of industry in Bengal to which we are indebted for productions so exquisite and so costly. It is admitted on all hands, that the finest of the Dacca muslins exceed anything which can be produced by the looms of Europe; and when the Manchester manufacturer described them "as the merest shadows of a commodity," he pronounced, in fact, the highest eulogium which they could receive, and indicated in a few words the deficiencies of the English when compared with the Indian manufacture of muslins. There have been several general descriptions given of Dacca and its manufactures in the books of travellers, and in papers received from their servants by the East India Company; but before the appearance of the present modest volume we have had no treatise on the question at once general and technical, and written by a person competent from long residence in the locality to describe the changes which have taken place in the Dacca district since its cotton trade was almost extinguished by the importations of British-made calicoes into India. The book before us will, we imagine, be very well received. It reminds us forcibly of some of those memoirs, at once able and elegant, which half a century ago it was not uncommon to have laid before Parliament as the answer of some accomplished servant of the East India Company to a question which had been put to, or an accusation which had been brought against, his honourable masters. The style is remarkable for its ease, simplicity, and correctness; and in a small compass the author has had the good fortune and the good sense to compress an amount of information which is both curious and important.

We cannot pretend to discuss the technical parts of the volume; but a few extracts from the descriptive passages will interest our readers. And first, as to the Dacca district itself.—

"The locality most celebrated for this manufacture is the district of Dacca, situated in the eastern division of the province of Bengal. It comprehends a tract of country near the confluence of the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Megna, which, exclusive of Dacca-Jellalpore, now constituting a separate district, is about 1,960 square miles in extent. It consists of two portions, which differ widely in regard to physical aspect and soil. One is considerably above the highest level of the surrounding rivers in ordinary seasons of inundation, and is chiefly composed of clay, and of a siliceous and calcareous earth mixed with iron (*kunkur*). It forms a part of a similar tract about seventy miles in length, which extends into the neighbouring district of Mymunsing, and which is overrun with dense jungle. The other portion, which occupies more than one-half of the area of the district, is of alluvial formation, and presents the appearance of extensive fertile plains, intersected by branches of the rivers above mentioned, which inundate places of a low level to a depth varying from two to twelve feet during three months of the year. This portion, except its lowest sites, which form some extensive morasses (*jheels*), is highly cultivated, and produces abundant crops of rice, pulse, mustard, sesamum, sugar, indigo, cotton, safflower, turmeric, ginger, and betel leaf. The heat of the climate of Dacca is some degrees lower than that of the western districts of the province. The mean maximum temperature of May and September (the two hottest months in the season) was, as deduced from ten years' observations, 87·39 degrees in the former, and 88·84 degrees in the latter month. Humidity is the characteristic of the climate. The average annual quantity of rain during eight years was 70·3 inches. The greatest fall in any year during that period was 93·9, and the least 46·8 inches. The population is composed of Hindoos and Mohammedans, in about equal numbers, and was estimated in the year 1837 at 530,000. * * The business of weaving is carried on, to a greater or less extent, in almost every village of the district; but the principal manufacturing towns (*aurungs*) where muslins are made, are the city of Dacca, Sunargong, Dumroy, Teetbadee, Junglebaree, and Bazettpore. Dacca is situated on the Booreegunga, formerly a branch of the Ganges, but now one of the several channels through which the Brahmaputra discharges its waters into the Megna. It stands on the northern bank of this river, extending along it to a distance of about four miles, and is surrounded inland, partly by comparatively high ground covered with jungle and partly by low rice fields, which are inundated to a considerable depth during the rainy season. Like most native towns in Bengal it is very irregularly built. Its streets and lanes are long and narrow, and lined with brick houses and thatched huts, erected close to each other, and placed without any regard to uniformity. In some of the bazaars occupied by certain castes,—as weavers, goldsmiths, and shell-cutters,—the style of architecture is peculiar, many of the houses of three or four stories in height, having only a frontage of eight or ten feet, while the side walls, unperforated by doors or windows, extend back to a distance frequently of sixty or seventy feet. The dwellings of the European residents are large and well built, and give to the town a somewhat imposing appearance on approaching it from the south. Most of them stand on the bank of the Booreegunga, and have in front gardens upon terraces, the walls of which are washed by the river in the season of inundation. The population, consisting of Hindoos and Mohammedans, with a few English, Armenians, Greeks, and descendants of Portuguese, was computed in the year 1838 at 68,000."

It has been known for some time that a peculiarly fine kind of cotton wool was employed by the Dacca weavers for their muslins;—and of this cotton the writer speaks as follows.—

"The cotton of which the fine Dacca muslins are made is produced in the district. The plant is an annual, and attains a height of four or five feet. It is a variety of the *Gossypium herbaceum*; but, according to Dr. Roxburgh, it differs from the common herbaceous cotton plant of Bengal in the following particulars, viz.:—'1st. In its being more erect, with fewer branches, and the lobes of the leaves more pointed. 2nd. In the whole plant being tinged of a reddish colour, even the petioles and nerves of the leaves, and being less pubescent. 3rd. In having the peduncles which support the flower longer, and the exterior margins of the petals tinged with red. 4th. In the staple of the cotton being longer, much finer, and softer.' This is the indigenous (*desee*) cotton of Dacca, which has been cultivated in the district from time immemorial, and which is generally known there by the name of *photee*. Another variety of cotton called *bairaiti*, which is raised in the eastern part of Bengal, has been regarded as yielding the material of which the fine muslins are fabricated; but at Dacca it is considered as being inferior to the *photee*, and as differing from it, as it does from the *desee* cotton of Hurriaul, in having a larger pod, and shorter and coarser fibres. Cotton is raised in different parts of the district, but the photee, or finest kind, is grown only in certain localities situated along the banks of the Brahmaputra or its branches, and the Megna. Speaking of the latter of these sites of cultivation, the Commercial Resident of Dacca, in the year 1800, remarks:—'A tract of land extending from Feringybazar, twelve miles south east of Dacca, along the banks of the Megna to Edilpore, twenty miles north of the sea, occupying a space of about forty miles in length, and in some places as far as three in breadth, and situated in the pergunnahs of Kidderpore, Bickrampore, Rajenagur, Carticpore, Serampore, and Edilpore, is allowed to produce the finest cotton (*kapas*) grown in the Dacca province, and, I believe, I might add, in any part of the world, since no cotton that has yet been compared with it, whether the produce of India, or of the islands of Mauritius or Bourbon, whose cotton is celebrated for its superior quality, has been found equal to it.' He attributes the superiority of the cotton raised here to the vicinity of this part of the province to the sea,—'the water of which,' he remarks, 'mixing, as the tide rolls it in with the water of the Megna which overflows that part of the country during three months in the year, deposits, as it subsides, sand and the saline particles which very considerably improve and fertilize the soil, which consists of light sand and brown earth.' The other sites of cultivation noticed by him are 'the banks of the Lockia, from the Dulaseree river to a little above Roopgunge, about sixteen miles in length, and a few miles on the banks of the Brahmaputra, north of the Dulaseree,' which, together with the country above mentioned, 'furnish the greater part of the kapas used in the Dacca province. Of the rest, some is grown in Buldecal, Bowal, and Alephsing, and some imported from Boosna, in the adjacent district of Rajeshye.' Two crops of cotton are raised in the district. One is gathered in April and May, another in September and October. The former yields the finest produce, and is the crop, therefore, which is most extensively grown."

The following extract, which we put together from the concluding pages of the volume, contains precise and acceptable information with reference to the actual magnitude of the cotton trade of Dacca when it was most prosperous, and also with reference to the changes which have taken place in the industry of the Dacca district since its former staple productions have been in a great measure superseded.—

"The aggregate value of the cloth trade of Dacca, in the year 1753, was estimated by the Commercial Resident in 1800 at Arcot rupees 2,850,000, or 356,250*l.* as the prime cost. * * Prior to 1765, the goods provided at the factory were purchased with bullion imported into the province from England. But after the Company acquired possession of the territorial revenues of the country, money was advanced from the provincial treasuries for the purposes of trade. The stock of goods thus provided annually, or 'the investment' as it was called, was increased after that date to more than twice its former amount; and private merchants now began to trade with capital borrowed in the country. In 1771 the Company exported cloths to the amount of ten lacs of rupees (125,000*l.*), and English private traders to that of twenty lacs (250,000*l.*) The manufacture of muslins had been attempted at Paisley as early as the year 1700, but it was not until 1781 that it was permanently established and carried on with success in Great Britain. On the expiration of Arkwright's patent, and the introduction of mule twist in 1785, this branch of industry was greatly extended. From 1781 to 1787, the cotton manufacture of Great Britain increased in value from 2,000,000*l.* to 7,500,000*l.* In the latter year there were forty-one spinning factories at work in Lancashire. In 1787, the estimated prime cost of the cloths that passed through the custom-house of Dacca was fifty lacs (625,000*l.*), while the value of the whole trade of the town for the same year was calculated at one-and-a-quarter crores of rupees (1,562,500*l.*). This appears to have been the most flourishing period of the cloth trade of Dacca, or it was, at least, the year in which the amount of exports was the greatest. Soon after this, the trade

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began to decline. In 1793, the total value of cloths exported to foreign countries was estimated at 170,269*l.* The estimated prime cost of the cloths manufactured at the stations connected with the Dacca factory, for exportation, from 1790 to 1799, inclusive, was 1,703,252*l.* In 1807 the amount of the Company's exports was 107,690*l.*, while in 1813 it was reduced to the comparatively small sum of 33,811*l.* 8*s.* In 1817, the Commercial Residency was abolished, and the factory closed. Since the extinction of the trade to Europe the manufacturing industry of the district has, from the increasing importation of cotton-twist and cloths into the country, been declining yearly. Native spun thread, with the exception of very fine and very coarse qualities, has in a great measure been superseded by British yarn. The cotton goods manufactured at Dacca in 1844 we valued at 94,000*l.* * * Deducting 40,000*l.*, which is the computed value of the *British* cotton yarn imported into Dacca and the neighbouring marts, and 5,000*l.* as the value of the silk used in the fabrication of cloths of mixed texture, the amount of money expended annually among the manufacturers of the district does not exceed 54,000*l.* * * The experiment of growing cotton in the district suited to supply the wants of the English market has been carried on by Government during the last seven years. It is under the personal superintendence of a gentleman practically acquainted with the culture of this plant in America. Though, indeed, little success has attended the cultivation of the American or other exotic varieties of cotton in the district, yet there is reason to hope that the results of the efforts now being made to raise the native kinds of the plant adapted to the above-mentioned purpose will prove more fortunate. The celebrity of the indigenous cotton used in the manufactures of the district, and the suitableness therefore of the soil to this cultivation, lead us to anticipate success in this experiment. Government have done everything in their power to promote the object in view. In addition to an expenditure of upwards of 3,000*l.* on the experimental farm, they have held out encouragement to the ryots to engage in this branch of cultivation, by making advances of money to them for the purpose, and promising to purchase all the cotton that they raise."

These passages will convey a good idea of the general tone and character of the book before us. The writer has performed an acceptable service by publishing at this particular time so excellent a treatise on such a subject; and we congratulate him also on having produced an Indian memoir neither too long, too dry, nor full of names which no European can pronounce.

Deck and Port; or, Incidents of a Cruise to California. With Sketches of Rio de Janeiro, Valparaiso, Lima, Honolulu, and San Francisco. By the Rev. Walter Colton. Partridge & Co.

HERE is a title-page to tempt all whose pleasure it is

to talk with mariners
Who come from a far countree;

but we are bound to tell those who propose to read the work on the strength of its promises that their time will be thrown away. It would be difficult to find a book of voyages more prosy and unsatisfactory. The natural indignation that a reader has the right to indulge against a work which pretends to be something whilst it is nothing, is enhanced in the present instance by the flippancy and fine writing which infest every page. It is difficult to imagine how a man of the most moderate intelligence could have gone so far, and brought back so little worth remembering. Mr. Colton has been a traveller through the desolate Pacific; he has seen all the "wonders of the great deep" as it beats in continual storms around Cape Horn, and that island of the "land of fire," as it was called by its discoverers, which has haunted our own imagination beyond all other strange lands that we ever read of;—yet he has little more to give us than quotations from 'Don Juan' and other well-known portions of Lord Byron's poems, delivered with the judgment of a schoolboy. Here is a specimen of tawdry commonplace taken at random, to show that we do not complain without a cause.—

"Tuesday, Feb. 12th.—The lion wind still roars in his old lair. That lair lies directly in our path. If we attempt to escape it on the right, the breakers of Cape Horn lift their thunder, if we try to avoid it on the left, trembling icebergs present their steep fronts. *So here we are, hemmed in like the hero of Marengo, amid the black battlements and keen hail of Russia's capital and crime. Patience, thou meekest virtue in man, still pour on us thy soft submissive light!*"

It is doubtless a wise and satisfactory provision of Nature that men are able to carry their own sense of personality along with them wherever they go,—for if we had the gift of seeing ourselves in our own proportions it would be often a disheartening fact; but Mr. Colton magnifies himself beyond all endurance. In every emergency he sees to nothing but himself, and listens only to his own voice uttering bits of Byron. We confess, however, that we like his quotations, even when they are stale, better than his original wit. Here is a sample.—

"What a magnificent model-book one of our great Western Lakes would make! It would hold all the clothes, clean and unclean, that cover the whole human race! There is only one difficulty in the way of this arrangement—it would be a little awkward to have the lake freeze over in the dead of winter. This might be prevented by introducing under it the volcano of Vesuvius, which is of no use where it now stands. But our women will never consent to have the *smell clothes* peddled in Lake Superior:—so there is an end of the whole business."

The author has a love of attempting "profitable reflections"—in which we do not think he succeeds much better.—

"We had a visit a few evenings since from a whale. We were lying in a dead calm, when this monster saluted us like a locomotive blowing off steam; the column of brine which he threw up with his great forking pump fell in a sparkling shower. Man contends with nature with great cost and pains,—and when all is done it can play only in that one place:—but the whale moves about throwing up his brilliant cascade in every zone. The springs may fail, the streams forsake their channels, but the showers of heaven still draw from a source exhaustless as the mighty deep. Give me the whale and the ocean for a fountain, and you may do what you please with your drizzling pipes and frog ponds."

Looking about for some grain of wheat to present to our readers, we were diverted from the further attempt by the following piece of choice moralizing on the female out-door costume at Lima:—the *saya y manta*, of which every body has heard,—and which serving for at once hood and mantle, so completely disguises a person that a husband can scarcely recognize his own wife in such a dress.—

"No virtuous community [says our author] would tolerate its presence for a moment; it has been relinquished by some of the better families in Lima, and will was once put under a legislative statute, but it still survives and is still in extensive use. The Evil One, could such a thing be, might drop tears over its fall!—How the heart turns from such a picture as this to that of one whose breathing features throw at this moment their unveiled sweetness on my eye!"

At this point we stopped. We had struggled on with Mr. Colton through the phases of the moral and the poetical,—and kept up our courage even while he was humorous; but before this particular application of the sentimental we broke down. Mr. Colton does not tell us who the fair one is to whom he alludes; but our own private opinion, judging from the similarity of influence, is, that it can be none other than the "sweet one" invited by Mr. Warren to drop a tear over the "little worm" in 'The Lily and the Bee.'

A History of the English Railway: its Social Relations and Revelations. 1820—1845. By John Francis. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

IT is not an easy matter to give an accurate description of this book. In the first place, it is something between an epic poem in very sonorous prose and a matter-of-fact description of realities so eminently unsentimental as railway engineering and stock jobbing. In the second place, it appears to have been a leading feature in Mr. Francis's scheme, to introduce a profusion of biographies drawn up on a somewhat new and monotonous plan. It seems to have been laid down as a fundamental maxim, that all the personages introduced should be heroes at the least,—and that the character and achievements of most of them should already be so well understood and appreciated, that Mr. Francis has nothing more to do than amplify a few of the most familiar circumstances in each case into a singularly novel and awful kind of rhapsody. There has been no want of railway histories and handbooks up to the present time; but it has not before entered into the mind of any writer, so far as we know, to epitomize the annals of our iron roads, our joint-stock follies, and our speculative panics, in a style of inflated rhetoric which Gibbon might have read with trembling, and which leaves Dr. Johnson and Mr. Macaulay both far in the shade.

As most of those who have dipped into Mr. Francis's former volumes of anecdote and gossip will probably do, we opened the present book with agreeable anticipations. We reckoned on finding in it lively stories pleasantly told; and if we did not expect from Mr. Francis any important addition to our knowledge of the progress and effects of one of the greatest social innovations of modern times, we made ourselves pretty sure that we should meet with at least the sensible reflections of a well-informed man. We do not mean to say that we have been wholly disappointed. Some of the pages, and a few of the chapters, are written with ease and elegance, and carry on the narrative very agreeably. But seven-tenths of the volumes are as nearly as possible unreadable. We have faithfully discharged our functions as critics by going through the two volumes; and the task is one which we cannot conscientiously recommend to others. Mr. Francis has fallen so utterly under the power of his new illusion, that he cannot see the commonest objects in an ordinary light. He treats a railway prospectus with the solemnity and emphasis due to a great national event. Everything in connexion with it becomes gigantic and uncommon. All the matter-of-fact gentlemen whose names appear on it as directors shoot up at once into chieftains and worthies, of qualities the most commanding. Everything seems to be expected to stand still and speechless while Mr. Francis unburdens his spirit of the weighty observations which he feels called on to make under the circumstances. "They are all demigods with Mr. Francis who put the bridle on the Iron Horse.

Mr. Francis's favourite achievement lies, we have said, in the production of what may be called a rhetorical biography. He loses no opportunity of displaying his proficiency in this new and peculiar kind of composition; and the fund of admiration at his command is so ample, that he finds very little difficulty in providing nearly every person who comes across his path with eulogiums of the most copious character. There is one serious drawback to the enjoyment of the reader in making the acquaintance of this formidable array of decorated worthies,—namely, a want of variety. All the men are alike,—and these

is a provoking similarity in the gaudy draperies which they severally wear. The result is most unsatisfactory; and Mr. Francis's gallery of portraits really amounts to little more, or less, than a row of overgrown wall divinities attired in something which approaches the Bloomer costume.

In the hands of an industrious and judicious writer a History of Railways might perhaps have been made a popular and lively book,—though in itself the subject is not an inviting one at the present moment. Most people know as much about railways as they care to know. Sir Francis Head has quite recently unfolded all the mysteries of management; and some six or seven times a year the public have the benefit of a speech or a pamphlet which gives a popular *résumé* of a wonder that nearly everybody can explain. The follies of 1845 and the distresses of 1847 are too recent to be made the subject of pleasantry:—to say nothing of events and disclosures which have distinguished a period still nearer to the present time. All these circumstances considered, we cannot congratulate Mr. Francis even on his choice of a subject.

We have already said that some portions of the volumes are interesting. Take, for example, the following account of the early efforts to form the Liverpool and Manchester Railway.—

"The 29th October, 1824, was the date attached to the first prospectus of the Liverpool and Manchester railway company; and that prospectus, in the calmness of its utterance and the almost dignity of its tone, formed a marked contrast to many which have succeeded it. The opposition of the land-owner was alluded to and deprecated. 'The road,' said the document, 'does not approach within about a mile and a half of the residence of the Earl of Sefton, and traverses the Earl of Derby's property over barren mosses, passing about two miles from the hall.' The first names in the district were attached to it, and 'the importance to a commercial state of a safe and cheap mode of transit for merchandise,' was made a prominent consideration. 'It is competition that is wanted, and the proof of this assertion may be deduced from the fact that shares in the old Quay navigation, of which the original cost was 70*l*., have been sold as high as 1,250*l*.' 'The canal establishments are inadequate to the great object to be accomplished—the regular and punctual conveyance of goods at all seasons and periods. In the summer time there is frequently a deficiency of water, obliging boats to go only half loaded. In winter they are sometimes locked up for weeks together.' The total quantity of merchandise passing between Liverpool and Manchester was estimated at 1,200 tons a day, of which the average time of passage was thirty-six hours, and the average charge 15*s*. a ton. The astonishing fact already given to the reader, that goods were frequently brought across the Atlantic from New York to Liverpool in twenty-one days, while cotton had been longer on its passage from Liverpool to Manchester, was solemnly recorded. And, pursued the paper, 'By the projected railroad, the transit of merchandise between Liverpool and Manchester will be effected in four or five hours, and the charge will be reduced one third. Here then will be accomplished an immense pecuniary saving to the public, over and above what is perhaps more important—economy of time. Nor must we estimate this saving merely by its nominal amount, whether in money or in time: it will afford a stimulus to the productive industry of the country: it will give a new impulse to the powers of accumulation, the value and importance of which can be fully understood only by those who are aware how seriously commerce may be impeded by petty restrictions, and how commercial enterprise is encouraged and promoted by an adherence to fair competition and free trade.' The principle, therefore, on which the country was invited to co-operate in the great experiment, was the public good. It was a principle at which the canal proprietors scoffed, and which the coach proprietors ridiculed. The estimated expense of the entire line was given at 400,000*l*.; and the passenger traffic—that traffic which has formed so marked a feature in railroads—was cautiously alluded to. 'Moreover,' continued the prospectus on this point, 'as a cheap and expeditious means of conveyance for travellers, the railway holds out the fair prospect of a public accommodation which cannot be immediately ascertained.' This prospectus created great interest. The excitement which was prevalent throughout England at the period, the freedom with which money was invested in foreign mines and foreign loans, in domestic milk companies, and domestic umbrella societies, was an additional assistance to those who were promoting the project, and the shares were taken without difficulty. The line previously examined by Mr. James was abandoned, and Mr. George Stephenson was employed to make a new survey. An application was immediately made to the House of Commons to grant a bill, and a most determined opposition ensued: every clause of that great argument was opposed; every fallacy which had been refuted was again repeated; facts were most obstinately misstated, and falsehoods confidently asserted as facts. The bill was argued against by one gentleman, 'because there were already three canals between Liverpool and Manchester. They were rival companies, interested in opposing each other, and the competition produced a reduction of rates. It would interfere with private property. He knew one individual whose land was bounded by a canal on one side, and by the high road on another, and now they were going to run the railway through the centre of his estate.' This logical reason why the proposed railway bill should not become the law of the land was probably conclusive only to canal proprietors and to the honourable member himself. Mr. Huskisson said, and the remark is worthy notice, coming from this eminent man, 'that the promoters of the scheme had a higher object than the mere accumulation of wealth through this channel. They would render a great commercial benefit to this country. The subscribers were the merchants, bankers, traders, and manufacturers of Liverpool and Manchester. They had agreed that no person should hold more than ten shares each. He had seen the parties interested, and they had declared they were willing to limit the amount of dividends to ten per cent, and that they would be perfectly satisfied with five per cent.' When the canal companies saw that the railway was likely to become what has since been termed a great fact, a wonderful change took place. Their fear conquered their pride, and they attempted to propitiate the merchant. They who once had laughed at such an application, now lowered their charges. They who once had haughtily declared it to be impossible, now increased their accommodation. One canal company offered to reduce its length three miles out of forty-two, at an expense of many thousands of pounds. They saw now, as the father of canals had seen half a century before, 'mischief in those —— tramroads.' But despite of this, though they deprecated where they once had defied, they found their efforts vain, and their offers of accommodation too late. The railway was determined on; and every interest, direct or indirect, which the canal proprietary,—as influential, perhaps, as any company that ever existed,—could exert, was brought to bear on their formidable and fatal opponents. Next to the canal owner, the most important opposition was naturally expected from the landholder, and by both interests every art was used to produce an effectual hindrance. Every report which could promote a prejudice, every rumour which could affect a principle, was spread. The country gentleman was told that the smoke would kill the birds as they passed over the locomotive. The public were informed that the weight of the engine would prevent its moving; and the manufacturer was told that the sparks from its chimney would burn his goods. The passenger was frightened by the assertion that life and limb would be endangered. Elderly gentlemen were tortured with the notion that they would be run over. Ladies were alarmed at the thought that their horses would take fright. Foxes and pheasants were to cease in the neighbourhood of a railway. The race of horses was to be extinguished. Farmers were possessed with the idea that oats and hay would no more be marketable produce; cattle would start and throw their riders; cows even, it was said, would cease to yield their milk in the neighbourhood of one of these infernal machines."

The following is a similar account of the early struggles of the original London and Birmingham.—

"From 1825 to 1830 the railway, with the entire commercial interest, was depressed. The languor which followed the great panic remained; money was by no means plentiful: men watched with curiosity, mingled with contempt, the movements of the Manchester and Liverpool line, nor was it until the locomotive proved its power at Rainhill that much more than curiosity was excited. In 1829 an act was passed for the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway, the distance between the two places being sixty-one miles; and so many were its difficulties that it was not opened throughout for ten years. Following this act came a desire to form trunk railways from the metropolis. One of these, the London and Birmingham, now known as the London and North-Western, though first thought of and surveyed during that great excitement in 1825, of which its elder brother, the Liverpool and Manchester, was born, was abandoned when the panic followed that excitement, not because it was impracticable, but because it was considered that, with the existing traffic, there was not a sufficient prospect of profit. In 1830 the project was again placed before the public view, and all eyes fixed on the great experiment which they of Liverpool and Manchester had tried; the time was propitious. Unfortunately rival lines were proposed. One of these was under the auspices of Sir John Rennie, the other under those of Mr. Giles. The former was to pass the collegiate town of Oxford, the latter by that place renowned for the exploits of the fair Godiva. The merits of these plans were discussed with due plausibility: each projector endeavoured to demonstrate that there was no scheme like his own. Each engineer sought to prove that there was no route so proper as that which he proposed. If one line were difficult and expensive, it had the merit of promising a proportionate traffic. If the other went through less populous districts, it would create traffic and increase population. Directors and engineers, solicitors and secretaries, entered warmly into the warfare, and every prospect appeared of a social strife similar to that which disgraced the city at a later period. Fortunately all concerned saw the propriety of amalgamating. Proposals were made to join the two companies; and, fearful in that early stage of the railway interest lest they should damage themselves without injuring their opponents, an union was effected. The next question that arose was the line to be adopted. Mr. George Stephenson was called on to adjudicate on the merits of the rival routes; the directors agreed to select the line which the majority should approve; and as Mr. Stephenson decided in favour of that by Coventry, the gentlemen of Lancashire, who in this as in most other railways were personally and pecuniarily interested, supported their favourite's opinion, and decided by their support that the line through Coventry should be that chosen by the united company. * * Every possible exertion was made to forward the undertaking; the necessary documents were ready by November 1830; but so great had been the haste, and so unsatisfactory was the result to the engineers, that it was deemed judicious to postpone the application for a bill until the following year. In November, 1831, therefore, plans and sections, marking the line almost as it now exists, were lodged with the proper authorities. The first crude idea had been to form a single line of rail, the expense of which was calculated at 6,000*l*. a mile. The capital was to be a million and a quarter, and the shares rose to 10*l*. premium. A more matured thought suggested the necessity of a double line. This was determined on; but so little faith had commercial men in there being sufficient traffic to pay for the increased capital, that the shares soon descended to a discount."

After entering into further details, we then come to the following lively picture.—

"Probably few private bills ever sustained so much combined opposition. Those whose purses were interested, refused to be convinced; those whose prejudices were attacked, would not listen to the voice of reason. Meeting after meeting was held to counteract this. Reports and circulars were issued to neutralise the efforts of its opponents. It

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bore the appearance of a great national undertaking. It must not be forgotten that signal difficulties, irrespective, perhaps, of the object for which the capital was demanded, beset the directors of the company. Twenty years ago, when this railway was in progress, the commercial houses of London were principally of that class which could claim ancestral honours. Their fathers had fought for commercial rights, and been graced with commercial dignities. They had been honoured with titles, they had founded great charities, they had ever been ready to aid an impoverished state with their capital, they had often been called on to assist a failing ministry with their counsel. By 1830, the position of these houses was beginning to change. The fearful crisis of 1825 had ruined some, and weakened more. Many who had stood the crash had been severely shaken, and unwilling at a future time to run a similar hazard, they had withdrawn their capital from their narrowed business, and remained in dignified isolation. In addition to this, a new race of traders had arisen to push them from their stools. Such men made up for a small capital by great activity. Hitherto the old houses had been paramount in their business, and peremptory in their mode of conducting it. They had fixed their own terms in the old times, and had refused to change them in the new. They could scarcely be said to have sought their profits, so easily had those profits fallen to them. They rarely ventured on anything novel, and the utmost stretch of speculation was when some young adventurous member of the firm startled his seniors by sending a courier to Vienna to take advantage of the exchange, or an *estafette* to St. Petersburgh to forestall the tallow-market. The 'new men' saw at once the position of these houses, and the prospect which opened to their own ambition. They introduced that mode of dealing for time which had its origin in the Stock Exchange, and which the writer has elsewhere had occasion to moot. They bought and sold for delivery, paying or receiving the difference. They lowered the rates of commission, they relaxed the dignified terms maintained by their competitors. They were the type of that earnest, progressive spirit which for good or for ill has increased for the last twenty years. They were emphatically the men of the time; they carried that competitive spirit into the higher branches of commerce which had long been in existence in the lower orders of trade. The consequence was, so far as the railway is concerned, that while the old commercial houses received in placing their sons in the directorates of insurance companies, engrossed the shares in the New River company, or gave their Imperial sanction to the gas corporations, they were too determined to support their order at once to recognize the new and mighty power which silently, but surely, was abolishing all that they regarded as sacred. They feared at once to involve their character and their capital, and for a short time they held aloof. If the old houses wanted the will, the new houses wanted the power. Every shilling of their funds was employed in what they were pleased to call legitimate speculation. Independently of this, they were not desirable men. They had no traditional names which spoke at once for the respectability of the company. They possessed no character to charm the multitude; and they could not dispose of the shares. They could not influence the senate; they were, therefore, worthless to the railway promoter. The London merchants had doubted the practicability of the iron way; they had derided the notion of the locomotive; they had scarcely even adventured in the shares. Contenting themselves with watching its progress, they were ready to rejoice in their prudence, or to benefit by its success. When, therefore, they were persuaded it would pay, they raised their voices in its favour as heartily as they would have denounced it had it failed. Under these circumstances the following list, representing much of the then solidity and capital of the London houses, is somewhat remarkable. The names are familiar to all commercial readers:—

George Pearkes Barclay	Robert Garrett
Edmond Calvert	George Carr Glyn
William T. Copeland	Pascoe Saint Leger Grenfell
Edward Cropper	Daniel Ledsam
James Foster	Joseph Frederick Ledsam
William Francis	John George Shaw Lefevre
James Pearson	Timothy Smith
William Phipson	John Sturge
John Lewis Prevost	Thomas Tooke
Theodore V. Rathbone	John Turner
Henry Rawlins	Joseph Walker
Isaac Solly	Henry Warre.

From this it may be seen that in this list of the early directors of the London and Birmingham Railway Company, the merchant and the manufacturing interest had each its symbol. The names of George Carr Glyn and Pascoe Saint Leger Grenfell represented the banking interest of London; that of Copeland gave a pledge that the class in which he stood prominent appreciated the power. The merchants of London sent members, in the persons of Barclay, Prevost, Tooke, and the name of the latter, since known as the expoent of a new principle in political economy, gave an additional sanction and surety to the conduct of the company. The character of the gentlemen on that list of directors afforded evidence that if the provinces had taken the initiative in railways in 1825, the metropolis would not be backward in joining them with cash and credit in 1832. And yet it was composed of mixed materials. The country and the London backer was side by side with the provincial sharebroker. The directors of some of our most ancient London corporations went hand in hand with the Birmingham manufacturer. The chairman of one of our oldest insurance companies did not disdain the companionship of the Chesapeake factor; and to the honour of Robert Garrett, merchant, of Manchester, be it recorded that he was one of the largest contributors to this fine undertaking. The course of proceedings in Parliament was interesting. On the 20th February, in the above year, the bill was read a first time in the Commons. On the 28th it passed a second reading by a majority of seventy-nine. A rigorous examination of the evidence followed, and the bill was carried in the lower house. No division occurred in the House of Lords on the first and second readings; and after the committee, of which Lord Wharncliffe was chairman, had sat for six days hearing conflicting evidence and reconciling conflicting statements, an adjournment was agreed to with the idea that some amicable arrangement might be effected between the company and its opponents. The negociation, however, failed; in other words, the directors could or would not bribe high enough: the opposition was stoutly maintained; and on the 10th July, 1832, the bill was lost."

We must not conclude without saying a word or two on a question which is raised by some of the closing chapters of this book. It forms no part of our plan to interfere in the politics either of States or of joint-stock companies,—and hence we have taken no shere in the controversy which has been so long carried on respecting the conduct of Mr. Hudson as a manager of railways. When, however, an attempt is seriously made to render literature subservient to the views of either party, we have the right to interfere. It appears to be one of the main purposes of Mr. Francis's book to cover Mr. Hudson with indiscriminate panegyric. Indeed, this writer does nothing by halves; and adopting the tone of a disinterested person, he lays before his readers one of the most imperfect and partial accounts of the transactions in question that has hitherto been attempted. We shall content ourselves with saying, that this is an abuse of his literary opportunity which of itself should put a stamp of retribution on Mr. Francis's book.

Florence Sackville; or, Self-Dependence: an Autobiography. By Mrs. Burbury. 3 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

We are informed that this is a first novel:—we hop e it will not be the last by its authoress. We possess many of the requisites to produce excellent domestic tales:—a clear appreciation of humour and of pathos,—a firm hand in noting down the boundary lines and salient features of character,—and a constancy, steady but not pragmatic, to the leading plan and purpose of her story. There is nothing untrue to real life and suffering in the position and repute of Florence Sackville, the self-dependent heroine and narrator. Those who can act boldly in moments of peril and consternation are perpetually liable to be charged with acting coldly;—those who feel distress too acutely to endure the thought of spreading like anguish around them,—and therefore constrain themselves,—must prepare to be spoken of and dealt with as persons having no real feeling. Selfishness, on the other hand—pain, that with effrontery lays every boil and blain open to the shuddering eye of the wayside gazer—is pretty sure of the commiseration of the tender-hearted and the active ministry of the good Samaritan. It seems strange and sad that because of their silence virtue and generosity should be accused of unlovelines and insincerity,—while every glance of ill-judging feeling and every exaction of weakness, whether spurred by appetite or by remorse, is admitted as real and loved as interesting. But so these things are; and the injustice vanishes only when we can really regard virtue as subsisting for virtue's sake, and not for the reward of men.

It is artistically done of Mrs. Burbury to have given to her self-dependent heroine that touch of pride and decision—by the world stigmatized as hardness—which belongs to her part. By her tenure, too, Florence sees the weakness, the untruth and the folly which may the beauty and the enjoyment of life more clearly than the pleasures which adorn it and the glimpses of sunshine which relieve its darkness.—Her father was a dashing, fiery, unprincipled Irishman, unable to deny himself anything, and capable of expending any amount of money. Her mother, was a gentle but feeble-minded English heiress; whose second daughter, Helen, resembled her more closely than our autobiographer. In her character there is a mixture of wild Milesian blood and Saxon doggedness. She was loved by neither parent, although resorted to by her mother in all extreme cases of trial for counsel, interference and extrication. The solitary, Florence gained a precocious insight into crime and sorrow. She went to pay a country visit; and accidentally became an actor in a terrible domestic tragedy, which we rather hope than believe to be over-coloured. Such is the story of poor Milly Trevelyen:—the pathos of which is powerful, without exaggeration. This episode alone would justify us in placing Mrs. Burbury high among modern novelists. To return to the tale:—By what has been told of Florence Sackville's parents, the reader will be prepared to hear that the heroine has to go through the deep vexatories of adversity, caused by the extravagance of her father. The family is ruined,—Capt. Sackville absconds,—and his daughter has to decide for and to sustain those whom he has so selfishly abandoned. In this emergency, she is advised by a vulgar London neighbour who happens to be professional,—and she is pressed by her selfish mother and beautiful sister to make their fortunes by going upon the stage. To relieve this long narrative and to let Mrs. Burbury speak for herself by a few of her lively pages,—we will exhibit our heroine in the hands of a Cheltenham manager.—

"'And now I will find Mrs. Mountain and introduce you to her; we can then go on at once with rehearsal.' Down to the stage, therefore, we went, and found the manageress busily engaged in drilling the *corps de ballet*. She was a little wiry Italian-looking woman, with brilliant eyes and teeth: the last of which she had become so accustomed to show to the limits in her characters of Sylphide, Bayadere, and Oudine,

that she was perpetually forgetting har mundane existence, and bestowing her expansive smiles upon her earthly subjects. She was merry and good-hearted, very vain and very passionate, industrious to an extraordinary degree, and a most faithful wife and mother. With little education, she contrived to do most things well, and everything respectably. Her *forte* was dancing; she had been *première coryphée* at the Italian Opera House, during the Taglioni dynasty; and a great favourite with that wonderful *danseuse*, who had offered to take her to Paris, and place her under one of the masters of the *Conservatoire*. But home, husband, and children were dear to the true-hearted little ballet-dancer; and, without a sigh for the visions of distinction which were conjured up by her generous patroness, she made a grateful farewell curtsey, and followed her husband's modest fortunes; which by some chance led him to Cheltenham. When the manager and I reached the stage, we found Mrs. Mountain standing near the foot-lights, without shawl or bonnet, her dress pinned up in festoons to show her feet—which were cased in dirty white satin shoes, with the round ill-shaped toes which are common to ballet-dancers' slippers, and occasioned I suppose by their frequent re-covering. She was clapping her hands to keep time, and stamping first one foot and then the other, by way of drawing the pupils' attention to the *pas*. Glancing round as we approached, she gave her husband an almost imperceptible nod of despair, and went on with her teaching. By her side stood two admiring amateurs; upon whom, as she could not spare tima for a word, she every now and then lavished one of her most 'effective' smiles; and who looked more ridiculous, and out of place, than I had conceived it possible for men, not absolute idiots, to look. Mr. Mountain uttered a short little laugh, as he saw tha 'gentlemen,' and then exclaimed,—'Ann, come here.'—'In two minutes. I must put the ladies once more through this march, and then. Now ladies, *ladies*, do listen to the music. Once more, if you please, Mr. Danton. Slower, slower.—Don't run over each other, step all together: now then, la, la, la, *la*. Oh, dear, dear! Miss Smith, why *will* you not keep time to the music? It seems to me that you have no ear at all. We must begin all over again. Now then, form into rank; and *do* mind the orchestra.' While this was going on, we were joined by the two amateurs, and various members of the company, to whom I was introduced; and, in a few minutes after, Mrs. Mountain, excited with her labours as ballet-mistress, cama up, smiling. She held out her hand cordially, when her husband named me, saying,—'I'm very glad to see you, my dear; I hope you'll dine with us after rehearsal, and then I shall have more time to tell you so: but just now, I'm wanted in fifty places at once; so for the present, I must wish you good-bye. Charles (addressing her husband), you must speak to the property-man about the flags for this march; ha has brought some down that are not half long enough in the staff. You can go on with tha rehearsal as soon as you like, I shall be back in time for the last act, and the chorus: by-the-bye, don't forget to look to the mezzanina floor; the trap-door doesn't work at all. Now, Miss Allenby, I'll go with you to the wardrobe, and fix upon the dresses for the ballet. And, Mr. Danton, pray don't forget the scores for that *pas seul* I dance on Thursday.'—'Pon my life, Mrs. Mountain,' said one of the amateurs, as the lively little woman scattered these reminders, hints, and directions in all quarters, 'you are a most astonishing person. Mountain calls you his right hand, but, by Jove! I think you are both his hands, and feet, and head into the bargain. How on earth do you contrive to think of everything in this way?'—'Habit, habit, it's quite natural to me! Besides, it really is nothing, after all; only serves to keep one alive. Come, Miss Allenby, we must go,—*au revoir*.' And with this, and a few other French phrases which she had picked up from the foreign artistes at the Opera, and was exceedingly fond of using, the little manageress walked off. 'Macbeth' and 'The Loan of a Lover' were the opening pieces; in neither of which I was to appear, further than to sing in the music of the tragedy. When the rehearsal of the play was called, Miss Pauline Montgomery, the leading lady, made her appearance, and, with a sweeping curtsey to me, as we were introduced to each other, passed on to the stage. She was very tall—taller than myself—very angular, and very grand; a sort of stilted Lady Macbeth. She struck me, even upon this first interview, as being the most gloomy looking person I had ever seen, and longer acquaintance only confirmed this impression: she could not even laugh naturally, and her mirth was a thing to make one shudder, it was so forced and joyless. Still she persisted in playing Rosalind, Beatrice, neighbour Constance, and all similar parts; which, as *prima donna*, she conceived belonged not only to her position but to her talents; and the consequence of this mental hallucination was, that tha comedies and plays at the Cheltenham Theatre were often the most dismal portions of the week's performance. Her age must have been forty at least, but sha called herself five-and-twenty, had lithographs of herself in all her benefit parts (Meg Merrilies and Mrs. Tric-Trac being two of them), thought herself a beauty and a blue, and flirted solemnly with all the green-room *habitués*. Such was the leading lady who followed by the leading gentleman, a retired half-pay officer of the household troops, swept magnificently past me to rehearse Macbeth. The amateurs stood aside in silent admiration, and I sat by the prompter, on a broken chair with three legs and a half, to watch and listen."

The above is true to the life,—the "lights" of Mrs. Mountain and the "shadows" of Miss Pauline Montgomery included. Indeed, all this portion of the tale bears such a stamp of reality, as to resemble a chronicle of personal experience rather than a piece of imaginary writing.

One feature, however, in our heroine's self-sacrifice is too prominently and pertinaciously insisted on to be wholly passed over; since it involves a fallacy which is still so largely current among the thoughtful, the liberal, and the benevolent as to call for remark so often as it presents itself. This is, Florence's condescension to the stage, for tha purpose of affording pecuniary assistance to her exacting mother and frivolous sister, in spite of the scorn and disgust expressed by her for a profession so "hateful." Under such circumstances of antipathy and disapproval, would any motive sanctify the deed? Not wholly, we submit. It is hard to fancy man or woman consenting to moral degradation for the sake of lucre without trenching on criminality;—and Mrs. Burbury makes her heroine express herself like one who feels that she is almost morally degraded. Not a touch of the conscious artist gives hope or illusion to the compact,—we have not the slightest recognition of the possession of a gift to elevate and ennoble others, such as ought, with every person entering upon such a career, to alternate with the sense of unpleasant publicity and with the coarse compliments and coarser rivalries belonging to stage exhibitions. Every one indulging in such an epithet and anathema as Florence Sackville's,—whether she be a poetess boasting "the women of her family" while writing to a morning paper to contradict a rumour,—or a *Juliet*, while journalizing her daily loathings of the task which nightly fills her lap with gold—does her part to perpetuate the existence of a proscribed and Pariah class, and to fight the battle of those who repudiate all public and personal exhibitions (save those of pulpit and platform) as abominable, because they are demoralizing. Self-dependence does not demean itself thus. Even to serve those to whom it is most intimately bound—even in its most Quixotic enterprise to assist the ungrateful and to indulge the frivolous—it will not (if only for the sake of others) tamper with its own self-respect. It will decide on no course of action that it cannot defend,—and in that working out of which it cannot, therefore, find the hope and enjoyment which cleave to strength and to rectitude. There is more of the lady's maid than of the lady in pocketing money earned by a trade which the trader is perpetnally abusing. Real dignity walks mid-way betwixt such exaggerated disdain, and the ignorant, hectic, lawless enthusiasm with which the heroina of such a book as Miss Lynn's 'Realities' rushes upon the boards in quest of strong sensations and triumphant emancipation.—It would be well if the line were oftener traced by the writers of fiction dealing with a subject at best full of delicacy and difficulty.

If we have been tedious in the above lecture, it is because the new novelist is worth counselling.—Further to trace the fortunes of her heroine, and to tell how love had its share in testing Florence Sackville's self-dependence, would lead us too far. Enough has been said to convey our impression that the work before us has been finished with no ordinary care, and deserves no ordinary attention.

A Selection of English Synonyms. Parker.

This excellent little book has been edited and "carefully revised throughout" by the Archbishop of Dublin,—and it may be regarded as a sort of sequel and complement to his great work on Logic. The value of a collection of synonyms—or, as we should rather say, of pseudo-synonyms,—nicely discriminated and illustrated by examples of their use in good writing or speaking, will not be denied by the writer and the scholar; and we even think that Dr. Whately might justifiably attach more importance to the task of marking off the finer shades of meaning in our "household words" than he has here done. When we think of the part which our noble English tongue appears destined to play in the drama of history,—its already wide dissemination in Europe, America, Africa, Asia, Australia, and through the countless islands of the Southern Ocean,—its connexion with so much that is most precious in literature and in science,—and the genius, energy, and fecundity of the races to which it is the vehicle of law, commerce, and civilization,—we are struck with the importance of every wise and successful attempt to purify, fix, and polish it. The people make the language. In a few years, as Dr. Whately shows, slang terms, if they once get into general currency, grow classical. The names "Whig," "Tory," "Roundhead" were once slang—in the same manner, "mob," "flimsy," and hundreds of other words, though confined not long ago to the vulgar, are now used by our best writers. Words lose their original meanings, too, through popular ignorance or caprice; and thus a curious field of inquiry is thrown open to the philologist. Dr. Whately observes on the subject of these changes,—

"It is curious, and illustrative of national character and customs, to observe how completely words, radically the same, modify their meaning in the various languages which branch out from one common source. Who would expect to see words, so nearly the same, differ so widely in meaning as our English word altered (changed), the French 'altéré,' (overheated or thirsty*), and the Italian 'alterato' (angry): and then again, our English word *alternative* (a choice between two courses), and the Spanish 'alternativa' (the social circle in which a person moves), all these different words springing from the Latin 'alter' (another)? Who would suppose that the same word, the French 'défendre,' should signify 'to defend' and 'to forbid'? or that one word, honesty (honnêteté), should imply civility in France and probity in England: and another, (virtus,) valour in Latin, and excellence in the arts in Italian? or that the three words, 'substantia,' 'understanding,' 'hypostasis' should all three have corresponding origins, though so widely different in their signification? Again, it is curious to observe what different ideas originally

"* It originally meant, altered *for the worse*—then, angry or excited—thence, heated, and, lastly, thirsty."

suggested the words which now mean precisely the same thing in different languages. The word 'Heaven,' for instance, conveyed with it the idea of something *heaved* or *lifted* up, as also the old word '*lift*,' and the German '*luft*.' 'Cœlum,' again, referred to something hollowed out or vaulted, being derived from the Greek word *koilon*, hollow, our own word 'coiled' being probably of the same origin. 'A torrent,' again, signified in Latin a stream which was *burnt* up in summer, while the Greek word referred to its flowing (only) in winter. All these variations of meaning help to elucidate national manners and habits of thought."

Where such changes follow from peculiarities of thought, social habits, and conditions of physical existence, it is scarcely possible or desirable to stay their course; but where the changes arise from ignorance or mispronunciation the lover of our noble old idiom has his right to step in with a protest and a warning.

Many of Dr. Whately's remarks on the pseudo-synonyms here treated of, are masterly bits of subtle and discriminating criticism. We give a specimen or two, taken almost at random from his book.—

"*To Conquer, Subdue, Vanquish, Subjugate.*

'To conquer' is less individual and more general in its meaning than 'to vanquish:' we *vanquish* an enemy who attacks us; we *conquer* a country.

'Vanquish' is always used for a combat, generally with some *personal* enemy; 'conquer' for a series of combats. We speak of *vanquishing* an enemy in a single encounter, but of *conquering* a country. Achilles *vanquished* Hector before Troy; Napoleon, in his campaigns, *conquered* great part of Europe.

'To conquer' is oftener used metaphorically than 'to vanquish;' we talk of conquering evil inclinations, conquering oneself, &c. But in this last sense, 'to subdue' is oftener used. 'Subdue' implies a more continued pressure, and a more gradual, but surer and final victory.

When a nation has ceased to resist, we say it is subdued. 'Subjugate' (which originally means, to bring under the yoke) implies *external* and continued restrictions. We *subdued* the French, but we did not *subjugate* them. Poland is subjugated—that is to say, kept under by a continuous pressure from without; but its spirit remains unsubdued.

'Subjugate' is always used in speaking of *nations*—never of individuals, and never in an abstract sense. 'Subdue' may be applied to individuals even in a literal sense, but always indicates mental as well as physical conquest. A child, or a captive, is said to be completely *subdued* by severe treatment, when the spirit is broken and the mind enfeebled, or *cowed*, as it is sometimes expressed."

"*Civil, Polite, Courteous, Polished, Well-bred.*

Civility is *now* something less than politeness or courtesy. In old English it was used for elegance, or polish in general. (See *Pilgrim's Progress.*) It now implies that attention to others which is *absolutely* necessary, and no more. If a servant-maid, or a workman, is spoken of as being *civil*, it is considered as a term of approbation, because no more is expected from them; but with the higher classes *civility* ought to be taken for granted, and something more of *prévenance* and polish of manner is expected.

The difference between 'courtesy,' on the one hand, and 'politeness' and 'polish' on the other,—is, that courtesy has more reference to others—politeness to ourselves. We may say indifferently, 'He received me *courteously*,' or 'He received me *politely*,'—but in the one case we should be dwelling on the attention he was paying to *us*, as a part of his duty to us,—and in the other, on the behaviour assumed by him from proper self-respect. Courtesy, then, seems to imply more kindliness of feeling. Politeness has, indeed, been defined as 'benevolence in trifles,'—but this outward benevolence may spring merely from outward regard for the opinion of the world, without real kindness of heart. Hence, St. Paul does not recommend us 'to be polite,' but 'to be courteous,' because he is treating of our duty towards our neighbours, not of what is due to ourselves. In short, a man is polite for *himself*—courteous for *others*.

Polish refers even more completely to ourselves than *politeness*. We should not speak of 'behaving to such a person in a *polished* manner,' but 'politely.' In short, 'politeness' occupies a place halfway between 'polish' and 'courtesy.' 'Polish' also implies a high degree of elegance and refinement, and cannot exist without considerable cultivation; it seems, as it were, to belong to artificial life.

'Well-bred' is rather referable to general conduct than to particular actions. A *well-bred* person will behave *politely* to others. It also implies general propriety of behaviour, whether connected with others or not. 'Ill-bred,' on the other hand, is oftener applied to individual actions than 'well-bred,' though it applies equally to general conduct. We say, 'that is a very *ill-bred* speech,' but we should not speak of a *well-bred* speech, but rather of well-bred conduct and deportment. It originally referred to a good early education, and still indicates that conduct and those manners which would be the *natural effect* of such an education."

"*Graceful, Elegant.*

Grace is in great measure a natural gift; *elegance* implies cultivation, or something of a more artificial character. A rustic, uneducated girl may be graceful; but an elegant woman must be accomplished and well trained. It is the same with things as with persons; we talk of a graceful tree, but of an *elegant* house or other building. Animals may be graceful, but they cannot be elegant. The movements of a kitten, or a young fawn, are full of grace; but to call them *elegant* animals would be absurd. Lastly, 'elegant' may be applied to mental qualifications, which graceful never can. Elegance must always imply something that is *made* or invented by man. An *imitation of nature* is not called so; therefore we do not speak of an 'elegant picture,' though we do of an elegant pattern for a gown, an elegant piece of work. With respect to the other fine arts, it is a curious fact, that though music and poetry are both reckoned as the offspring of the mind, yet the term 'elegant,' which is constantly applied to a poem, is not admitted in speaking of a piece of music. The reason of this may perhaps be, that poetry is really more emphatically the production of the mind than music. If disagreeable images, or discordant metres, are introduced, the poetry is bad, but still it *is* poetry, and the fault that we find with it rests on the very fact of its being such. On the other hand, music is called bad if it is feeble, heavy, or tasteless: but unless the musical notes are selected in obedience to certain laws, they are *not* music. Strictly speaking, false chords should not be denominated 'bad music,' but no music at all. The laws of melody and harmony are laws of nature, as immutable as the laws of gravitation. The musician has a large choice of various combinations, but not an unlimited one: he must adhere to these laws, and is not permitted to invent any combination of notes at variance with them. But whether this difference between music and poetry be considered as altogether holding good or not, certain it is that music seems to be regarded as belonging more to nature than to art. Melodies are discovered, rather than invented; and hence, while 'graceful' is a term often used in reference to them, 'elegant' is not. When used in connexion with the productions of the intellect, 'elegant' is always applied to the lighter branches of study. 'An elegant scholar,' 'elegant literature,' are terms always implying a reference to the *Belles Lettres*. Lastly, 'elegant' is applied to a kind of merit which consists rather in the absence of glaring faults than in striking beauties. An elegant poem is smooth and well-constructed, but not a work of original genius. 'Graceful,' on the other hand, is frequently applied to *bodily* movements; which scarcely ever is the case with elegant. Even in speaking of movements which are acquired, and therefore to a certain extent artificial, the word 'graceful' is used instead of 'elegant;' as a graceful dancer; a graceful manner of doing the honours of a table. This sense of the word forms, perhaps, an exception to the general rule—that elegance is the characteristic of art, and grace of nature.

'Grace' originally meant 'favour,' and the derivative 'gracious,' has preserved the same meaning."

"*Imagination, Conception, Fancy.*

'Imagination' and 'fancy' are frequently confounded together, but are, nevertheless, very distinct in their signification. In the first place, 'imagination' implies more of a *creative* power than 'fancy;' it requires a greater combination of various powers, and is therefore a higher exercise of genius. 'Fancy,' on the other hand, is more an employment of ingenuity and taste, though it also requires inventive power. Secondly, 'imagination' implies a longer flight; 'fancy,' rather a succession of short efforts: the one is a steady blaze, the other a series of sparkles. An epic poem would require an exercise of the first; a ballad, or other lighter production, of the last. Hence we may see that, as it has been well remarked, the difference between the two is, in some measure, one of subject-matter; for the same power which we call 'fancy' when employed in a melody of Moore, would be called 'imagination' in the works of Dante or Milton. In short, the efforts of 'fancy' bear the same relation to those of 'imagination,' that the carving and polishing of a gem or seal does to sculpture. In the third place, *wit* may come into works of 'fancy,' and could not be admitted into the province of 'imagination.' The same with what are called *conceits*.

'Conception' has something in common with imagination, but it implies more decidedly a creative power, and is referred to something tangible and real; whereas, in efforts of fancy and imagination, there is always a consciousness of unreality. The province of 'conception' is that which has a real existence. Hence, the productions of painters, sculptors, and musicians are called 'conceptions.' 'Conception' also denotes something framed and originated in our *own* mind; whereas the imagination or fancy may be acted on merely from without. The poet or writer of fiction exercises his own conceptions, but awakens the imagination of his readers."

The reader will see from these instances that there are thought and knowledge of no common order in this little book. Dr. Whately hits the mean between dry dictionary work and a too copious disquisition with rare felicity. The man who would learn to write or speak the idiom of Shakspeare with the strength and precision of which it is capable should keep this 'Selection of English Synonyms' within reach of his hand at any moment.

Bole Ponjis: containing the Tale of the Buccaneer; a Bottle of Red Ink; the Decline and Fall of Ghosts; and other Ingredients. By Henry Meredith Parker, Bengal Civil Service. 2 vols. Thacker & Co.

THAT *Smythe* is a politer name than *Smith* every dweller in the *Fitz-Montmorency Villas* or the *Talbot-ville Crescents* encircling our genteel watering-places must be well aware. Nor will any one of the myriad descendants and relatives of the *Captain Jackson* immortalized by Charles Lamb pretend to gainsay the fact that *œufs au miroir* have a vastly more delicate flavour than homespun poached eggs. Who can doubt that the note of the bulbul by Bendemeer's stream must be infinitely more mellifluous than the "jug-jug" of a common-place Thames nightingale? In like manner, 'Bole Ponjis' by way of title gives an air and a savour to these volumes, which the more intelligible one of "Punch-bowl" or "Bowl of Punch" could never have imparted. By a wave of the wand of the spirit of *Galimatias*, the pot-house is exchanged for the pagoda, the omnibus for a palanquin, the yard of clay for a hookah. We are, in short, ready to be poetically, humorously, languidly, or ambitiously Oriental, at our author's will and pleasure.

He has more claims, however, than those of this over-sea and enticing title. His miscellany is as mournful, merry, musical and mysterious a miscellany as we are likely to receive among our other literary comforts for Christmas. His poetry, though not "as deep as a draw-well nor as wide as a church-door," is, nevertheless, tuneful, pleasing, and, at need, spirited. His prose is well varied. A set of scenes illustrating once again "The Seven Ages" shows an amount of

fancy, within a small compass, above the average. There are, a smart paper on 'Agincourt' and a stirring 'Tale of the Indian Ocean.' We had marked for extract the lively exaggeration describing a hot day in the East which opens the moving story of Rajah Kubbadar Cham,—when something like a familiar note struck us in some of the paragraphs; and on reference, it appeared that the identical symphony had been laid before our readers of the *Athenæum* more years ago than it would be considerate to them to mention. Probably, most of the other papers and verses may have already been published in periodicals, abroad or at home. The following, however, is too local to have travelled across the ocean before —and too pleasantly characteristic in its lounging, easy-going way—not to be worth giving a second time,—and as a warrant to our recommendation of 'Bole Ponjis.'—

A few Lines in honor of the late Mr. Simms, Senior Assistant to Messrs. Sheringham, Leith, Badgery, and Hay.

Who did not know that Office Jaun of pale Pomona green,
With its drab and yellow lining, and picked out black between,
Which down the Esplanade did go at the ninth hour of the day?
We ne'er shall see it thus again,—Alas! and well-a-day!—

With its bright brass patent axles, and its little bog mened tatts,
And its ever jetty harness, which was always made by Watts,
The harness black and silver, and the ponies of dark grey,
And shall we never see it more,—Alas! and well-a-day!

With its very tidy coachman with a very old grey beard,
And its pair of neat clad syces, on whom no spot appeared,
Not sitting lazily behind, but running all the way
By Mr. Simms's little coach—Alas, and well-a-day!

And when he reached the counting house he got out at the door,
And entering the office made just three bows and no more,
Then passing through the clerks he smiled, a sweet smile and a gay,
And kindly spoke the younger ones—Alas, and well-a-day!

And all did love to see him with his jaskel rather long,
It was the way they wore them when good Mr. Simms was young,
With his Nankeen breeches buckled by two gold buckles alway,
And his China tight silk stockings, pink and shiny, well-a-day!

With his little frill like crisped snow, his waistcoat spotless white,
His cravat very narrow and a very little tight,
And a blue brooch, where, in diamond sparks, a ship at anchor lay,
The gift of Mr. Cruttenden—Alas, and well-a-day!

Then from the press where it abode, he took the ledger stout,
And looked upon it reverently, withinside and without,
Then placed his pencils, rubber, pens and knives in due array,
And Mr. Simms was ready for the business of the day.

And ever to the junior clerks his counsel it was wise,
That they shall loop their l's, and cross their t's, and dot their i's,
And honor Messrs. Sheringham, Leith, Badgery and Hay,
Whom he had served for forty years—Alas, and well-a-day!

And a very pleasant running hand good Mr. Simms did write,
His up-strokes were like gossamer, his down strokes black as night,
And his lines, all clear and sparkling like a rivulet in May,
Meandered o'er the folios—Alas, and well-a-day!

And daily in a silver dish, as bright as bright could be,
At one o'clock his tiffin came, two sandwiches, or three,
It never came a minute soon, nor a minute did delay,
So punctual were good Mr. Simms's people—well-a-day!

And in the Mango season still a daily basket came,
With fruit as green as emeralds or ruddier than flame;
By Mr. Simms the sort had been imported from Bombay
And sown and grown beneath his eye—Alas, and well-a-day!

And when his tiffin it was done, he took a pint precise
Of well cooled soda water, but it was not cooled with ice,
And a little ginger essence (Oxley's) Mr. Simms did say
It comforted his rheumatiz'—Alas, and well-a-day!

Then on a Sunday after prayers, while waiting in the porch,
His talk was of the Bishop, and the vestry, and the church;
And two or three select young men would dine with him that day
To taste his old Madeira and his curry called Malay.

For famous was the table that good Mr. Simms did keep
With his home fed ducks, his Madras fowls, and gram fed Patna sheep,
And the fruits from his own garden, and the dried fish from the Bay,
Sent up by bold Branch Pilot Stout—Alas, and well-a-day!

And he was full of anecdote, and spiced his prime Pale Ale
With many a cheerful bit of talk, and many a curious tale,
How Dexter ate his buttons off, and in a one-horse chay
My Lord Cornwallis drove about—Alas, and well-a-day!

And every Doorga Poojah would good Mr. Simms explore,
The famous river Hoogly up as high as Barrackpore,
And visit the menagerie, and in his pleasant way,
Declare that all the bears were bores—Alas, and well-a-day!

Then, if the weather it was fine, to Chinsura he'd go,
With his nieces three in a Pinnace, and a smart young man or so,
In bright blue coats and waistcoats, which were sparkling as the day,
And curly hair, and white kid gloves, a lover like array!

And at Chinsura, they walked about and then they went to tea,
With the antient merchant Van der Zank, and the widow Von der Zee.
They were old friends of Mr. Simms, and parting he would say,
"Perchance we ne'er may meet again"—Alas, and well-a-day!

At length the hour did come for him, which surely comes for all,
From the beggar in his hovel to the monarch in his hall,
And when it came to Mr. Simms, he gently passed away
As falling into pleasant sleep—Alas, and well-a-day!

And on his face there lingered still a sweet smile and a bland,
His Bible lying by his side, and some roses in his hand;
His spectacles still marked the place where he had read that day,
The words of faith and hope which cheered his spirit on its way.

And many were the weeping friends who followed him next night,
In many mourning coaches, found by Solitude and Kyte,
And many a circle still laments the good, the kind, the gay,
The hospitable Mr. Simms—Alas, and well-a-day!

There is, also, a living picture of private theatricals, in the dramatic sketch closing these volumes, which it may be not unseasonable to con at present, when our drawing-room *Romeos* and *Juliets* may be shortly expected to muster for their winter campaign of farcical tragedy, dreary comedy, and good hot honest envy, hatred and jealousy.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Two Friends; or, Life is Earnest: a Tale. By Marriott Oldfield.—This little volume—the sixty-seventh of 'The Parlour Library'—is far from being the worst-told story of Woman's trials and Woman's fortitude which has been lately narrated. There is less extravagance in the incidents than we are accustomed to meet; though the courses of the heroine's brother, Edwin Brooke, are of romantic, rather than average, darkness,—and though his selfishness is so thinly veiled as to make his power of fascinating his charming wife, Annie, a marvel and a mystery even to those best disposed to give "Woman's fantasy" a blank credit. Mary, the heroine, is sweet, natural,—good, and not too good, —a faithful and tender-hearted woman, in whose sorrows we take a loving part as the tale proceeds, —hopeful, too, as well as loving, since the author in no part of his task leads us through an unbroken midnight. A comfortably prophetic gleam is always more or less visible, telling of a day-dawn of better fortunes to come,—which brightens duly and steadily as the close of the novel is approached. On the whole, this original story gives us once more reason to commend the good taste and the wise liberality of the proprietors of 'The Parlour Library.'

Thoughts on the Land of the Morning: a Record of Two Visits to Palestine. By H. B. Whitaker Churton, M.A.—To produce these thoughts the perusal of books of Eastern travel might have sufficed,—so few traces do they bear of the grace and freshness belonging to personal observation and experience. That Mr. Churton felt warmly while making his pilgrimage through the Holy Land we have no doubt. Such scenes and sites have new suggestions and inspirations for every new comer possessing any individuality of character. But if Mr. Churton belong to this company, he has not the power of making the fact evident in his pages. There is a faded and second-hand air in his book, which will prevent its having wide currency beyond the circle of its writer's friends.

The Emigrant's Manual: Emigration in its Practical Application to Individuals and Communities. By John Hill Burton.—One of a shilling series issued by the Messrs. Chambers, of Edinburgh, on popular subjects. It contains a large amount of general information as to the fields of emigration now open to our redundant population, fairly put together.

Glenny's Golden Rules for Gardeners, Professional and Amateur. This well conceived little book lays down in few words the laws and regulations by which the gardener should be guided if he would succeed in his task,—and refers to some of the larger books of authority, in each department of practical horticulture, for more elaborate and comprehensive instruction on particular points. The style adopted is the axiomatic—and many of the "golden rules" are sufficiently terse to be easily remembered.

Wanderings in North Wales: a Road and Railway Guide-Book. By W. Cathrall.—Though dealing more with the romance and legendary poetry of his theme than with its duller prose, Mr. Cathrall seems to have had practical usefulness in view in the composition of this new and illustrated guide to the mountains and ruins of North Wales. His descriptions are always copious, and now and then picturesque. He has a tale to tell of every crumbling wall and mossy bank,—investing the common road with historical and familiar interest, and making us willing listeners to old monkish stories of love, chivalry, and superstition. We can really recommend this guide as a pleasant, gossipy companion through the English Switzerland.

In a single paragraph we may clear our table of a number of books not calling for any particular comment at our hands. Among the works so to be dismissed we may mention *The Book of British Poetry, Ancient and Modern.* By the Rev. George Gilfillan, chiefly remarkable for the extraordinary nature of its editorial prose,—*Dancing as a means of Physical Education, with Remarks on Deformities and their Prevention and Cure.* By Mrs. Alfred Webster, composed on the "nothing-like-leather" principle,—*The Visitor's Pocket Director to London,* —*The Gold, its Alloys and other Metals, used by Dentists.* By James Robinson,—*A Map of the Proposed Grand Trunk Railway in India, with its Branches and alternative Lines as laid down in the Report of the Railway Commissioners,* a chart of considerable interest and importance to persons connected with our Eastern empire, — *Every Lady's Guide to her own Greenhouse.* By a Lady, a pretty and sensible little book on a subject of much domestic interest, — *Letts's Omnibus Guide Table,*—*The Calendar of the Anglican Church,*—*Familiar Things: a Cyclopædia of Entertaining Knowledge,* Nos. I. to III. — *An Examination of the Century Question,* — *Science Simplified, and Philosophy, Natural and Experimental, made Easy.* By the Rev. David Williams, — *Favorite Song Birds, being a Popular Description of the Feathered Songsters of Britain.* Edited by H. G. Adams, a little work illustrated with poetical readings from favourite English writers,—J. A. Wheeler's *Hand-Book of Anatomy for Artists,* with illustrations on wood,—William Brockie's *Elements of Universal Grammar for the Use of Schools,*—*Quinti Horatii Flacci Carmina,* carefully revised from the most recent texts,—*Platonis Phædrus, recensuit Carolus Badham,*—*Elementary Catechisms: Gardening, History, Geography,*—Thomas Buckland's *Hand-book of Mesmerism,*—*The Elements of Physical Geography, with Outlines of Geology, Mathematical Geography and Astronomy.* By Hugo Reid, an excellent lesson-book for common schools,—D. E. Columbine's *Hand-book to the County Courts, in which the various Proceedings to be adopted by Plaintiffs and Defendants are familiarly Explained,*—and *A Catalogue of Books published in the United Kingdom during the Year* 1850; which useful list includes all new editions, and reprints, together with more than a thousand pamphlets, arranged in alphabetical order under the authors' names, as well as the titles, and describes the size, price, date of publication, and publisher's name of each work, with also a reference to the full title as given in 'The Publishers' Circular.'

Among the reprints, translations, and new editions lying on our table, and which we may dismiss with a simple announcement, we have in Mr. Bohn's 'Standard Library' the third volume of Neander's *Church History*,—in the same publisher's cheap series, Lamartine's *Stone-Mason*,—M. de Plancy's *Legends of the Seven Capital Sins*,—a second edition of Mr. A. L. Walker's *Popery as opposed to the Knowledge, the Morals, the Wealth, and the Liberty of Mankind*,—a copy of the fifth thousand of *The Temperance Cyclopædia*, compiled by the Rev. W. Reid,—a fifth edition of Mr. C. A. Browning's *The Convicts' Ship and England's Exiles*,—a second edition of *The Parent's Great Commission: Essays on Subjects connected with the higher Part of Education*,—*The Gem of the Peak; or, Matlock Bath and its Vicinity*, by W. Adam, fifth edition,—a second edition of Mr. Parry Gwynne's very useful little book on current errors in conversation, entitled *A Word to the Wise*,—and a new edition of Dr. Mayo's work *On the Truths contained in Popular Superstitions; with an Account of Mesmerism.*

MEDICAL BOOKS.

Pharmacopœia of the London College of Physicians.—At one time, when Colleges of Physicians truly represented the medical profession, these little books of receipts were of some value;—especially as at that time medical literature was less abundant and communication more difficult than at present. But the times have changed; and our Colleges of Physicians have been left high and dry on the shore by the tide of medical affairs. Instead of the whole profession, they represent not more than a hundredth part of it; and neither their position nor their learning entitle their prescriptions to more respect than those of their neighbours. The Pharmacopœias of the British Colleges of Physicians are, however, even worse than useless. Compound medicines having the same name therein contain very different ingredients in different ones:—some of the most potent medicines are made to be twice or three times the strength in one Pharmacopœia that they are in another. Thus, the Hydrocyanic Acid of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia is twice as strong as that of London or Dublin;—whilst the London preparations called Solution of Hydrochlorate of Morphia and Solution of Acetate of Morphia are twice as strong as the analogous preparations of the other two Colleges. Under these circumstances, it would evidently be wiser on the part of the medical profession to ignore altogether the collections of nostrums published under the name of Pharmacopœias,—and to prescribe only those medicines which every chemist's lad and apothecary's apprentice ought to be able without danger to compound. At any rate, if a case can be made out for a Pharmacopœia at all, let it be a national one; and let Government entrust its production to the intelligent members of the profession,—not to the members of rival corporations, who run the risk of poisoning the public rather than give up their petty jealousies.

The Forbidden Book.—This is a very appropriate title for a book that will certainly be forbidden wherever men value their lives or their health. The author is a medical man who has chosen the not very gracious plan of abusing his profession in order to draw a little notoriety on himself.

Sketches of the Medical Topography of the Gulf of Guinea. By W. F. Daniell, M.D.—Any attempt at describing the nature and causes of the fearful mortality which attends the residence of the European on the western coast of Africa must be acceptable to the scientific investigator of the morbid history of man. Lamentable as have been the results of all European intercourse in these districts, we have few contributions towards anything like a scientific examination of the nature of the climate, or of the diseases which have acquired for this part of the world the reputation of being "The White Man's Grave." Though numbers of medical men have witnessed the diseases of Africa, few have been able themselves successfully to resist for a long time the influence of the climate:—hence the paucity of our information. Dr. Daniell, however, has now been employed in various capacities for many years on the coast of Africa,—and he has had opportunities of observation that have been denied to most men of his profession. Removed for so great a portion of his life from the influence of the progress that is making in the scientific investigation of the facts of pathology, it would be too much to expect that he should be intimately acquainted with its theoretical details. He has nevertheless produced a volume containing much new and interesting observation, which will serve as a valuable basis for future observations. In addition to his remarks on disease, Dr. Daniell has contributed a number of observations on the habits of the natives, and on the features of the vegetable and animal kingdoms in the districts to which he alludes:—and his work will be found to contain much interesting matter of a general kind with regard to that part of the coast of Africa in which he has so long resided.

The Physiology of Human Nature. By Robert Cross, M.D.—The object of this work is, to give an account of the physical and moral condition of Man in his relations to the Bible. The received doctrines and creeds of different sects all involve to a greater or less extent certain assumptions and speculations with regard to the physical nature of man. The aim of Dr. Cross has been, to show the relation of the creed adopted by the sect which is represented by the Rev. Dr. Cumming to certain questions of modern science. The book is written in an intelligent manner.

The Diseases of the Breast, and their Treatment. By J. Birkett, F.R.C.S.—To this work the Jacksonian prize of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was awarded in 1848. The subject is one of great interest to the medical profession; and in no department of pathology could more be expected from the application of the microscope and from recent physiological researches. Mr. Birkett is well acquainted with the mode of conducting microscopic investigations; and in every part of this volume the value of such aid is evident. He has also collected very diligently the observations of others; and the statistical results given at the end of the volume are valuable in themselves, and a good example of the important results that may be obtained by an accurate system of counting.

Elements of Materia Medica. Vol. II. Part I. By Jonathan Pereira, M.D.—This work is now so well known as the best authority on the subject of which it treats, that we need only say, the Part before us sustains its reputation for accurate research and extensive information on the various substances used in the legitimate practice of medicine.

A Practical Treatise on Diseases affecting the Skin. By Dr. A. T. Thomson. Completed and edited by Dr. Parkes.—The late Dr. Thomson was known as a laborious and experienced physician,—and any practical work coming from his pen would be valued by the medical profession. He had devoted considerable attention to the study of diseases of the skin; and the volume before us contains the result of his experience on this subject. He had not completed the work when he died,—and it has been finished by Dr. Parkes. Although not containing any profound or novel investigations into the pathology or healthy structure of the skin, it abounds with practical remarks which cannot but be found of value to the medical man. Dr. Parkes has appended a memoir of the author; which is interesting as displaying how a man with fixity of purpose and industry may make his way in the world in spite of difficult circumstances. Dr. Thomson had an uphill battle to fight: and he not only took a prominent place in his profession, but also cultivated literary and scientific tastes,—as his various works attest.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Animal Intellect, and its Relations to Matter and Spirit, 1s. 6d. cl.
Arnold's (Rev. T. K.) First German Book, 3rd edit. 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.
Arnold's Practical Introduction to Latin Verse Composition, 5s. 6d.
Arvine's Cyclopædia of Religious Anecdotes, edited by Flesher, 10s.
Bandinel's (Rev. J.) Lufra; or, the Convent of Algarve, 6s. 6d. cl.
Bennett's (W. J. E.) Last Sermons preached at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, &c. 8vo. 12s. cl.
Bohn's Classical Library, 'Lucretius on the Nature of Things, translated by Rev. J. S. Watson,' 12mo. 5s. cl.
Bohn's Illustrated Library, 'Redding's (C.) History, &c. of Modern Wines, 3rd edit.' 12mo. 5s. cl.
Bohn's Scientific Library, 'Mantell's (G. A.) Petrifactions and their Teachings,' 12mo. 6s. cl.
Bohn's Standard Library, 'Vasari's Lives of the Painters, &c.' Vol. 4, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Cabinet (The) Lawyer, 15th edit., with Supplements, fc. 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Campbell's (Rev. A. J.) The Obedience of Christ, 32mo. 1s. cl.
Chapman's Library for the People, 'Ware's Sketches of European Capitals,' cr. 8vo. 1s. swd.
Christian (The) Graces in Olden Time; a Series of Female Portraits; with Poetical Illustrations, by Dr. Stebbing, 21s. cl.
Churton's Thoughts on the Land of the Morning, cr. 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Comic Almanack for 1852, illustrated by Cruikshank, 12mo. 2s. 6d.
Court (The) Album, 1852, 4to. 21s. cl.
Crabb's (G., M. A.) Technical Dictionary of Terms, fc. 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Directory to Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats in Scotland, 7s. 6d.
Fisher's Drawing-Room Scrap-Book, 1852, 4to. 21s. elegant cl.
Francis's Chronicles of the Stock Exchange, 2nd edit. 8vo. 14s. cl.
Francis's History of the English Railway, 2 vols. 8vo. 24s. cl.
Gleanings of Heavenly Wisdom, 32mo. 1s. cl. gilt.
Goodwin's Problems and Examples in Mathematics, new edit. 6s.
Gumersall's (T. B.) Tables of Discount, 9th edit. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.
Guthrie's (Rev. W.) The Christian's Great Interest, 2nd edit. 2s. cl.
Heath's Keepsake for 1852, edited by Miss Power, roy. 8vo. 21s. cl.
Hetherington's (Rev. W. M.) The Minister's Family, 5th edit. 2s. 6d.
Jamieson's Eastern Manners, Illustrative of New Testament, 6s.
Knight's (C.) Cabinet Shakspere, Vol. 10, re-issue, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Laurence's (Rev. R. F.) Order for Visitation of the Sick, 1s. 6d. cl.
Levi's (L.) Commercial Law, its Principles, &c. Vol. 2, Part 1, 30s.
Library for Times, 'Miall's Footsteps of our Forefathers,' 12mo. 1s.
Meek's (Rev. R.) Christian Duties in the Closet, fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Murray's Reading for Rail, 'Layard's Discoveries at Nineveh, abridged,' 16mo. 5s. bds.
Nicolini's History of the Pontificate of Pius IX., fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Overton's (Rev. C.) Expository Preacher, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Paddiana; or, Scraps and Sketches of Irish Life, cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Popular Library, 'Pfeiffer's Travels round the World, translated by W. Hazlitt,' 2 vols. fc. 8vo. 2s. bds.
Pridham's (C.) Kossuth and Magyar Land, cr. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.
Punch's Pocket-Book for 1852, illustrated by J. Leech, 2s. 6d.
Rhind's (W.) Physical Geography, 18mo. 2s. 3d. cl. swd.
Routledge's Standard Novels, 'Grant's Scottish Cavalier,' 2s. 6d. cl.
Scrymgeour's (D.) Readings in Science and Literature, 12mo. 3s. 6d.
Scudamore's (W. E., M.A.) Letters to a Seceder, post 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Simpson's Epitome of History of Christian Church, 2nd edit. 5s.
Slack's (H. J.) Ministry of the Beautiful, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Spencer's (E.) Travels in European Turkey in 1850, 2 vols. 8vo. 32s.
Statutes at Large, 14 & 15 Vict. 1851, 8vo. 24s. bds.
Strickland's Lives of the Queens of England, new edit. Vol. 4, 12s.
Success in Life, a Book for Young Men, fc. 8vo. 3s. cl.
Tate's (W.) The Modern Cambist, 7th edit. 8vo. 12s. cl.
Thiers' Consulate and Empire, Vol. 11, 8vo. 7s. swd.
Thirlwall's (C., D.D.) History of Greece, new edit. Vol. 6, 8vo. 12s.
Traveller's Library, 'Pfeiffer's Voyage round the World,' 2 Parts, square 12mo. 1s. each.
Tucker's (Miss) Rainbow in the North, new edit. fc. 3s. 6d. cl.
Walpole's (Lieut.) The Ansayrii (or Assassins), 3 vols. 8vo. 42s. cl.
Wilson's (Dr.) Communion of Saints, 8s. (Bampton Lectures, 1851).
Wolski's (F. A.) French Extracts, 3rd edit. enlarged, 12mo. 2s. 6d.
Woodleigh House; or, the Happy Holidays, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Wyatt's (M. D.) Industrial Arts of 19th Century, Part 2, 7s. 6d.
Young's (Rev. J.) The Apocalypse Unveiled, Vol. 1, fc. 8vo. 3s. 6d.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—It may not be generally known that Manchester can boast of its Glass Manufacture, as well as Cottons. We see by the *Gazette*, Messrs. MOLINEAUX, WEBB & CO. are awarded a "Prize Medal." This House, in COLOURED GLASS and RUBY, is not surpassed, if equalled, by any other Establishment in the Kingdom.

ORDER OF MERIT.

A little more than three years ago, in a series of papers on the Claims of Literature, we prominently called attention to the want in this country of an Order of Civil Merit. For some months after those articles appeared, the subject underwent discussion in contemporary journals,—and from time to time we returned to it ourselves. The subject was not new to us then, as our readers know,—having been urged on all fitting occasions in these columns for a long period. But under the routine march of events, statesmen found no effective call for the establishment of a new institution in addition to the old,—and the disposition of men in high places towards such an idea remained doubtful. The present year's events furnished a new impulse to the discussion of a topic of this nature,—and we returned to the theme once more at the end of last May. The Exhibition was then in the first stage of its marvellous career. Its material beauty was ascertained,—its moral grandeur was already profoundly felt,—and its financial success was no longer a cause of uneasiness. Expressing an opinion entertained, we believe, by thousands, we then wrote as follows.—

"Among those who have become most familiar with the various aspects of the Palace of Industry, and who are most alive to its immense moral importance, there is a strong desire that the occasion should be marked by some public and honourable act which might grow up into a permanent institution, and become the outward historical monument of the year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty-one. An Order of Merit has long been talked about. The idea was first started by the Queen's grandfather:—but troubles of State caused the scheme to be postponed. War, indifference, and want of fitting occasion have since served to defer its revival. The present year seems especially fitted for its birth. The world is at peace. Hostility to intellectual and scientific claims is silenced before the majestic figure which they here assume. In a few weeks Merit will have its second field-day in the Crystal Palace, and royalty will decorate

the most eminent contributors. Why not go a step further? Why not inrol the most eminent of the eminent among the contributors to this industrial collection into a permanent Order of Merit, conceived on a scale sufficiently large to admit the highest merit of every kind—literary, artistic, professional, and scientific?"

The hope thus expressed that out of this great event would grow a new Order—embodying the merits of many kinds so conspicuously displayed in the Crystal Palace—has not, we are sorry to say, been sustained. The great fact of which we then chronicled the advent is now historical. The gathering of the nations has taken place; and among its many records that which might have become one of its most conspicuous is left wanting. Of course, it is unnecessary to say that to us this seems a great mistake. Few persons will now maintain that the old orders of chivalry—military for the most part—are appropriate rewards for such services as the world under its new dispensations is expecting from its great men. We have got a new chivalry—but not its symbols. Genius and Labour have succeeded to the Sword and the War Steed as the modellers of the destinies of nations:—but what is there in this country for the sovereign to bestow on the captains of the new crusades? Putting aside hereditary honours as in the majority of cases out of the question,—the answer is, simple Knighthood and the Order of the Bath. Are these sufficient—are they fitting? The latter, no doubt, is a very respectable Order. It includes many illustrious names. It has the sovereign for its chief and the highest subjects in the realm for its officers. But then, it is not open to general merit. It would be contrary to usage for the sovereign herself—under present regulations—to admit even the highest merit into its ranks unless the individual to be rewarded happened to hold an official post under the Crown. Thus, the head of the state is deprived of the means of distinguishing by royal favour the men whose genius and industry are the best illustrations of her reign. There remains, then, as available for general purposes, only—Knighthood. When knighthood was a real thing—the representative and reward of personal prowess and personal services such as the age demanded—it, too, was respectable. Princes were proud of the title. The honour of a knight was considered a higher pledge than that of a king. But with the loss of its old feudal and military meanings, the thing itself has lost its distinctive character. In recent times it has dwindled down into a sort of lottery for city aldermen and provincial mayors. Military in its origin, and the expression of honour in a day when the sword was held to be the great administrator,—it gradually deteriorated by indiscriminate admissions. Knighthood itself, from the spirit of its institution, never was a fitting reward for intellectual labours, for attainments in literature, for discoveries in science, for improvements in manufactures, for the application of new mechanical powers, or for the construction of great public works. Of this there is practical proof. Almost every year shows us some one to whose feelings it is not found agreeable to accept the so-called honour. The architects of the Royal Exchange and the Britannia Tubular Bridge have been, it is understood, amongst the number. Men whose merits and services the State is disposed to recognize feel that whatever significance there was once in knighthood has not only passed out of it now but was always alien to their pretensions; and they naturally prefer not to lend their names to the illustration of a decayed feudal institution, having no necessary or reasonable relation to the age in which they live and to the work which they may have accomplished.

There remains at present absolutely nothing that the sovereign can offer, and they receive without a sense of humiliation, to put the mark of State approbation upon the men who are working the miracles which make its wealth and greatness. This position of things must often be painful on both sides: and it would have been a wise and dignified course for a great nation like England, while the expression of her moral and material power stood so conspicuously before the world, and at the close of an event which has had no equal in modern times, to have gathered together the representatives of her genius, her industry, and her enterprise, and formed them into an Order reflecting the age and embodying its best features. The time was most opportune. Long and generally a want—such an institution was particularly and emphatically a want of the occasion. No one will deny that the services now brought prominently forward were such as to deserve a high form of recognition. Let us run hastily down the list of men who have been conspicuously connected with the recent Exhibition, and whose names would naturally have been included in any new Order to arise out of the late events. Under Her Majesty as President, Prince Albert, the originator of the great work, would, of course, have been the chief subject of the new institution. From the body of Royal Commissioners—for whom, be it said, there is and can be no other reward,—might have been named,—Mr. Shepherd as representing the East India Company, which made so liberal and interesting a contribution to the Exhibition,—Mr. Bazley, President of the Chamber of Commerce at Manchester, the district which sent so magnificent a display of machinery,—Mr. Stephenson and Mr. Cubitt as representatives of our civil engineers,—Sir R. Westmacott, Sir C. Eastlake, and Mr. Barry, of Art,—Mr. Gott, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Field Gibson, and Alderman Thompson, of the manufacturing districts,—Mr. Pusey, of the agricultural counties. The intelligence and wealth of the higher classes would have found representatives in the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Ellesmere, the Earl of Derby, Earl Granville, Lord Overstone, and Mr. Thomas Baring. Without going beyond the Commission, science would have entered the new Order in the persons of the Earl of Rosse, Sir C. Lyell, Prof. Hopkins, Col. Reid and Dr. Playfair. But, amongst the distinguished men who served on the Committees, or as Jurors, we find Sir J. Herschel, Dumas, Lode, Sir D. Brewster, Sir H. De la Beche, Poncelot, Moseley, C. Dupin, Dufreney, Van der Weyer, Sir W. Hooker, Cockerell, Brunel, Locke, Donaldson, Ramon de la Sagra, Mandslay, Conrad, Rendel, Tite, Sir H. Bishop, Profs. Lindley, Faraday, Royle, Owen, Solly, E. Forbes, Ansted, Willis, Walker, Graham, Baily, and numbers numberless, every one of whom would add an additional honour to the Order. Mr. Henry Cole and Mr. Wentworth Dilke, gentlemen of whom it has been said that they nursed the Exhibition from the cradle to its grave, and whose incessant labours are known to all,—Mr. Scott Russell and Mr. Fuller, who also were present at its birth,—Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir Alexander Spearman, Mr. Bowring, Mr. Digby Wyatt, Mr. Owen Jones, Col. Lloyd, Capt. Ibbetson, Capt. Owen, and others, who subsequently lent valuable assistance, would of course have found their proper place and fitting reward in the institution which has not been created. Mr. Paxton had claims which all have acknowledged,—as had also Mr. Charles Fox.—Here is a list of names that would at once have founded an Order to which hereafter it would be high honour and reward to belong. As the reader will at once perceive, we have not attempted anything like completeness, or even order, in recording these names, nor calculated the positive or relative labours, or the actual value of services rendered by the several parties,—but merely noted down names as they appeared in the Lists before us. We would not be misunderstood as implying that in our opinion selection should have been limited to these. There were others, both at home and abroad, who rendered zealous and efficient service out of and beyond the pale of the Commission and its officers. Mr. Peto, for example,—who, when the issue of the great experiment was yet uncertain, the Government full of doubts and fears, and when, therefore, a Guarantee Bond had to be given by a few zealous and foreseeing individuals for two hundred thousand pounds, put down his name for 50,000*l.*,—Messrs. Hibbert & Platt, the great Oldham machine-makers,—and others, whose contributions to the Exhibition were so costly, and yet sent in without a hope or possibility of remuneration—would no doubt have been included. In citing names we have merely desired to show that an Order might have been established worthy of the age and its civilization,—that the great event whose history we have written from week to week connected itself with a sufficient number of names otherwise renowned to justify the establishment of a new Civil Order of Merit with these as a nucleus.

THE BARONESS VON BECK.

Our readers, we believe, look—as we do ourselves—with painful interest for the gradual developement of the strange mystery which hangs over the late Baroness Von Beck. There are, as they know, features in that case which will be apt to make the crowd of foreign visitors before whose eyes it was enacted believe that our boasted freedom of the person is either a delusion or a snare. As we have already said,—even on the supposition that the unfortunate lady was the impostor which her enemies declare—on no authority that we can find more positive than their own assertion—the proceedings so successfully taken for her destruction were cruel and irregular in the extremest degree,—if they were not illegal. If the story of her life and sufferings were substantially true, as she related them, the case becomes one of the most painful on record. But for our own literary protest against the manner in which the public had been already treated, or were now attempted to be treated, in the matter of the assumed Baroness's book, the whole thing would have been hushed up, like an inquisition case accomplished:—but now that attention has been fairly called to the facts, and that the suspicions originally attaching to them have been sharpened by the imprudence of Mr. Toulmin Smith,—we cannot believe that this matter will be allowed to fall without some fuller explanation. For ourselves and those whom we especially represent, we have always felt that we were entitled to this:—but the public conscience generally is concerned. Our contemporaries, we see, are beginning to take up the question at the point to which we have brought it;—and the parties to the sudden and violent arrest, incarceration and death of the so-called Baroness will yet, we think, have to justify their intentions, though they cannot justify their acts.

Since we last reported on this strange matter one or two moves have been made. Mr. Smith, the barrister employed, as our readers know, on behalf of the prosecution, has addressed a letter to the papers which will scarcely extend his reputation as an advocate; and Mr. Bentley has replied to this letter in a manner which entirely disposes of most of its arguments. Lastly, Mr. Smith has published a brief and unsatisfactory note on the subject purporting to be from Kossuth. The last-mentioned piece of evidence runs as follows.—

RACIDULA.

To the Editor of the Daily News.

Sir,—Be so good as insert the following in your paper of to-morrow. It of course settles the matter—I am, yours faithfully, TOULMIN SMITH.

Oct. 24, 1851.

(Copy.)

"Southampton, Oct. 24.

"Dear Sir,—In reply to your note I beg leave to assure you that the name of 'Baroness von Beck' is utterly unknown to me. There was a person named 'Racidula' employed by my government as a spy, whom I saw twice in my life, and gave some special instructions to, as to a spy. That is all I know about her.—I am, Sir, with the highest regard, your obedient servant,

(Signed) "L. KOSSUTH."

"To J. Toulmin Smith, Esq., Highgate."

Before the reader will feel disposed to indorse Mr. Smith's assertion that this letter "of course settles the matter," he will probably demand that it shall be settled what "the matter" really is,—and note the terms of the letter somewhat carefully. Louis Kossuth is a name that we hold in high respect. His evidence, freely given, on a matter within his knowledge, would be to us perfectly satisfactory. But M. Kossuth himself will thank us for doing him the justice not to attribute to his words more than he means them to convey. Does it not strike the reader that the words to which the Magyar Chief's signature is attached have the appearance of being carefully weighed, and arranged, lawyer-like, with a view to pro-

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ducing a certain effect without venturing to say too much? Are these M. Kossuth's own words? Within the last few days many of his letters have been printed in the daily papers, and readers have been made acquainted with his style. His other letters are all copious, pictorial, eloquent, unreserved. Between all these and the "Racidula" letter, is there not just the difference between the style of Louis Kossuth and that of Mr. Toulmin Smith? It will be noted that the entire form of the communication is calculated to raise an inference which is not justified by facts. Mr. Smith's note is only part dated; but M. Kossuth is made to address his answer to Highgate,—as if in reply to an ordinary communication. Yet, as we learn from the newspapers, M. Pulszky and Mr. Toulmin Smith were in immediate attendance on M. Kossuth at Southampton and at Winchester the whole of the 24th. Bearing these points in mind, we must say that the letter of the Magyar leader does not materially change the aspects of the case as regards the deceased lady: while, even had it branded her with the name of impostor, it would have afforded no justification of the unprecedented and merciless manner in which she was hunted to death,—still less of the unexplained connivance at a literary fraud so long as it served the interests of a party to allow her to deceive the English public.—In fact, the letter goes but a little way to the case; and we think if it were Mr. Smith's cue as a professional advocate to argue on it in the interest of the Baroness, he would readily find in its meagre and guarded statements admissions favourable to the case of his client. M. Kossuth says,—"the name of the Baroness von Beck is utterly unknown to me":—he does not say there was no such person. He says "there *was* a person named 'Racidula' employed by my government":—is it remarkable that, under the circumstances in which they were placed, he should remember her by the name in which her papers were made out and under which she travelled? Abundant evidence has been given that others knew her by the name which she claimed:—and if she performed the services recorded in her book, it is substantially true whether her name were Baroness von Beck or Racidula.

All the rest of M. Kossuth's letter tallies exactly with the statements made by the Baroness, or supposed Baroness, in her published volumes. She says she acted as a spy,—she says she saw Kossuth only twice in her life, and that he then gave her some special instructions. We repeat, the ex-governor's note strengthens the case in favour of the accused. His evidence against her right to the title of Baroness is only negative,—and is opposed by the exact and positive testimony of others. As our readers are aware, Count Esterházy and many Hungarians of high position in Hungary knew the deceased as the Baroness von Beck, wrote to her as to a lady of rank, and addressed her by the titles now disputed. Only three weeks before her death M. Von Vukovics, Minister of Justice in Kossuth's cabinet, wrote to her from Paris on the subject of their Chief's liberation from his Turkish prison. M. Ujházy, the Government Commissioner at Komorn, not only styled her Baroness von Beck, but paid her money and took her receipt for it in that name. Nor does it appear that she was unknown in Kossuth's own family. M. Gorski, General Bem's aide-de-camp, declares that Madame von Meszlenyi, Kossuth's sister, spoke to him at Szegedin "of the merits of Baroness von Beck,"—and that on another occasion Kossuth's mother mentioned her by the same title. A correspondent of our own heard in Vienna, in official quarters, of the lady's adventures during the war in Hungary,—and her title to the name of Beck was not there disputed. Again, the *Times* correspondent, writing from the Austrian capital on the 19th of September, says,—"She was of a respectable though not noble family, her husband was M. de Beck, not Baron Beck."

All this evidence, direct, precise, circumstantial, must be met, dispersed or explained away by the accusers in this strange case ere they can expect us to accept their tardy charges, and to cancel the book which came to us originally with their own testimonial. It is useless to offer merely negative testimony. Mr. Toulmin Smith should be aware that the court of opinion is not concerned with what a man does *not* know. His easy comment on the "Racidula" letter recalls the old legal joke of the man who, when two witnesses swore that they saw him commit the murder for which he stood on trial, brought two others to swear that *they* did not.

The same conclusions arise out of the two letters written by Mr. Smith and Mr. Bentley since our last report. Mr. Smith wrote his letter as a reply to M. Constant Derra's "Refutation," and to the remarks made by ourselves and others in noticing that pamphlet,—and we scarcely know whether the want of logic or the want of temper be the more remarkably displayed in this document. Certainly, the tone used is not calculated to raise inferences favourable to the advocate's cause. He complains of Austrian influence,—and talks of the delusion under which they not who refuse to receive his assertions and his reserves as alike proofs.—But what does he attempt to prove or disprove? That the deceased lady obtained money under false pretences—the charge openly made in the Birmingham Police Court? Not a word of it. That charge is now abandoned. What is the case, then, as it stands in Mr. Smith's revised version? He divides her offence into certain "gravamina," as follows.—"First, that this woman falsely pretended to be the intimate personal friend of Kossuth; secondly, that the contents of her book are—both as to persons and statements, false; and, thirdly, that this pretender to our sympathies was, in reality, one who sold for hire the confidences which by her feigned patriotism she succeeded in obtaining." The answer as given by Mr. Bentley and others, and by, as we have said, M. Kossuth's own note—is as follows:—As to the first charge,—in her published volumes the Baroness claims, as we have before remarked, to have seen Kossuth twice,—and he admits it. She states the nature and manner of their interviews,—which his note confirms. She wrote, that he asked her to undertake a special mission,—as he also implies. There is nothing in her published work, as we have said, incompatible with the literal correctness of M. Kossuth's note. The second point Mr. Bentley has met in his reply published in the *Daily News*—and a copy of which he forwarded to us. We notice, however, in our copy of Mr. Bentley's letter a most important paragraph in relation to this point which the editor of our morning contemporary appears to have struck out. After showing that the only seeming evidence against the accuracy of the Baroness's book is the result either of Mr. Smith's own mistake or of probable feeling of revenge (for reasons stated) on the part of his correspondents,—such as General Haug's assertion that there were no barricades in Vienna on the 18th of October, when the Baroness is distinctly shown to have pointed to the 28th, and "the second barricade in the Jagerstrass," as the date and scene of her husband's death—and the disparaging remarks of Zerdahelyi, whom in her "Narrative" the Baroness had covered with her woman's raillery and ridicule,—Mr. Bentley then continues, as we find in our copy:—"But I am not compelled to have recourse to mere inferential proofs of the truthfulness of the Baroness's book. Mr. Newman, in his letter to the Rev. George Dawson, has recorded the fact that *M. Pulszky himself has admitted the substantial truth of all the Baroness's statements.* Thus, therefore, Mr. Smith's second *gravamen* vanishes."

The third charge—that the Baroness "sold for hire the confidence which by her feigned patriotism she succeeded in obtaining," is of course a serious one,—and if made should be sustained by unexceptionable proofs of its accuracy. The only evidence offered is, that of a letter signed "Charles de Soden," and directed to Madame Pulszky, in which that person affirms that he "knows that to be the case on good authority:"—he does not say *what* authority. Then arises the question:—who is Mr. Charles de Soden? The *Times* tells us that he is—or was—a foreigner connected with the London Police Office. This latter charge, however, Mr. Toulmin Smith expects the friends of the late Madame von Beck to disprove:—and Mr. Bentley replies—"when Mr. Smith has studied a little longer the rules of logic and the laws of evidence, he will discover that it is equally unreasonable and unjust to ask a man to demonstrate a negative, or to prove himself innocent of an alleged crime. In both cases the *onus probandi* rests on him who maintains the affirmative." Still, Mr. Bentley offers to meet the accusers on their own ground. "This, however," he adds, "I do. I pledge myself before the public, that if Mr. Smith will prove his charge to the satisfaction of two gentlemen, one appointed by himself and another by me, I will thenceforth give up the cause of the Baroness. If Mr. Smith does not accept this offer, it will be evident to every one that he has been lending the credit of his name to a gross calumny."

Here the case rests at present:—that is, as our readers will perceive, not materially altered by the publication of Mr. Smith's note from Kossuth or by his own reply in the *Daily News*.

The demand for some further explanation from M. Pulszky is greatly strengthened by the reference made in Mr. Bentley's letter to that gentleman's admission to Mr. Newman that the story of the Baroness's adventures was substantially correct. How is this to be reconciled with the prosecution—with his letter to the *Times*—and with his lawyer's statement to ourselves?

As to Mr. Toulmin Smith—as an Englishman and as a barrister he must either answer to his countrymen and to his order for the apparently strange place which he assumes in this case—as advocate, accuser, and judge—or be content to abide their judgments. After hunting the unfortunate woman to death, he declares in justification of a course without parallel so far as we know in literary annals, that she was an Austrian spy—that she did not write her own book—and that her papers contained proofs of a Hungarian conspiracy. He says he has proofs of the truth of these assertions in his hands:—why then does he not publish them, and there would then be an end of the matter?

ENGLISH HIGHWAYS AND BY-WAYS.

Since this land of ours was covered with railroads, the highways of England are become byways. Towns and villages through which poured the full tide of communication are deserted, and spots which are to be reached through ten miles of road seem farther off than the remotest point to which we can be shot by steam.

Now and then a loitering traveller, who loves the sweet and placid features of England as she was,—who is curious in the varied aspects and manners of her towns and villages—will perhaps set out on a journey of discovery along her once busy roads. He will measure the pleasures of travelling, not by the distance achieved nor by the crowd which precedes or follows him, but by the natural beauties which succeed each other in gentle and graceful succession; by the sweet sounds and odours which he has leisure to drink in; and by that general absorption into the spirit of Nature and of the Spring which, combined with easy motion and an absence of all care and constraint, constitutes one of the most delicious modes of existence. But can anybody now "entertain conjecture" of such a project as the following? Imagine two people setting out on a journey in a small pony carriage, containing them and all the "impedimenta" they are cumbered with; content to achieve about fifteen miles a-day, to walk, ride, stop, go on, as the feeling of the moment may dictate; careless of "trains," emancipated from the rigours of "stations," out of hearing of the clamorous and agitating whistle! You will not believe in such a fable:—and yet, it is true. And as it is just possible that some miserable wretch incarcerated within the endless walls of London, choked with smoke and wearied with din and motion, may wish to repose his soul in a like manner, I will tell him what, in the fine season, he may do in one lazy week, and without stretching his tether beyond the borders of Sussex and Hampshire.

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The railroad shall land him on the bright and fresh heaths of Surrey. He shall start on his pilgrimage from the Weybridge station, and skirting the base of St. George's Hill (he will find no hill more beautiful), descend Red Hill, the haunt of gypsies, and cross the wide sandy heath called Oakham Common, with its clear ponds, round which wheel flocks of wailing lapwings. On either side he will have a pretty landscape:—woods, farm-houses and green knolls, created with clumps of fir-trees. He will soon arrive at the gate of Oakham Park:—Oakham, illustrious when all around it was buried in obscurity. In the thirteenth century, William of Ocean taught Europe to utter the name of his humble birthplace. It has been the dwelling of this secluded village to be connected with Philosophy. The house belonging to Lord Lovelace, and built by the Chancellor whose highest illustration it was to be Locke's "cousin King," contains memorials of that best and greatest of England's sages:—among others, Kneller's original drawing for his picture.

From Red Hill we have been travelling on "the great Portsmouth Road"—that road which extends up by the hoofs of panting horses, whose utmost speed was too slow for the hopes and fears, the love and hate, of a nation engaged in mortal strife. Along this road travelled the news which kindled in the heart of England:—the news of the victories that awed her, and of the losses that sent mourning into her homes.

We are now at Ripley. The quiet village is sleeping in the light of the calmest and softest of evenings. The sun is going down behind the magnificent triple avenue of limes that skirts the western corner of the wide green. The cows are returning from milking, the sheep are bleating round the bell-wether, the lads are turning out to cricket, and the old men lean over the palsy and gossip. We alight at the large old-fashioned inn, the Hotel, where formerly the "stately feasting "families" passed the first night out of London. Here weary travellers from various parts met,—town and country intermingled news,—the inhabitants of the secluded villages around stopped for a moment into the busy current of life. Here acquaintances were made or renewed,—adventures begun or ended,—the perils of yesterday recounted, about Guildford. But the great charm lies in the ascent, winding between noble beeches and other forest trees, through which bright bits of distance are occasionally visible. We descended and wandered about the village, resting at every step. The ancient little church stands in a churchyard surrounded with spruce firs, which have a cypress-like air in harmony with the place. Separated only by the road from the churchyard is a minian-ture lake, reflecting in its clear waters the fine old trees on its banks, and the fringe of willows and thorns in which the nightingales were singing their many-part songs. It was almost impossible to go in doors,—but at length fatigue drove us in:—and here, alas! ends my idyll.

The good woman had already shown some anxiety about our repose, for it was Saturday night,—which means, in good English, the night on which the labourers indemnify themselves for the toils of the week by a night of sotting and noise. There was but one inn in the village:—we were to have the whole caroose in the room under us. I was not sorry for the chance to know what recreations ignorance and the absence of every conceivable source of intellectual amusement drive men whose natural inclinations are no worse than our own. Well, there was no strife, and no disorder. They drank beer and sang most unmelodiously till midnight,—that was all. The tunes, if they deserve the name, were almost all in the minor mode, after the authentic old English pattern, and extremely monotonous and untuneable. The ditties were so long as to excite wonder at the patience that could endure them, yet each was followed by boisterous applause. The coarse pleasures and uncouth noises of these poor men excited in my mind no other feeling than that of profound compassion and sympathy. For, what can be more touching than these rude strivings of untaught man to satisfy the earliest intellectual wants of his nature!—the longing after music and poetry!

The Sabbath morning broke in all its beauty on the charming scene, and the only disharmony was the memory of the past night.—We had ascertained immediately on our arrival at Hascombe that there was, as I expected, a road to Petworth without retracing our steps; and after hearing morning service at the little church, we set out on this unfrequented way. Immediately on quitting Hascombe you descend into the weald. The Telegraph Hill is the last of the ridge, and abuts on the plain. The country was now a dead flat of very Dutch and thriving aspect, and shortly became so uninterrupted a "Wald" (wood), as almost to deserve its name. The most striking thing was the extreme solitude. We met nothing, saw nobody, but now and then a wood-cutter.

The next day, hot and bright, was given to the magnificent park and the fine pictures at Petworth. The park has a remarkable character—it is cheerful. In general, large country houses standing in parks, however beautiful, are *tristes*. But somehow Petworth has escaped the sadness of stately isolation. The view towards the downs has a very Italian character. The water in the foreground, the peculiar grouping of the trees in the middle, and the wavy outline of the horizon, strongly recalled the combinations of Italian landscape. The ground in the park is undulating, and every hill wears its noble crown of gigantic oaks or beeches. It is unnecessary to talk of the value and interest of Col. Trapham's collections of pictures. The enjoyment of seeing them is greatly enhanced by the leisure afforded. The civil and intelligent person who shows them was not only patient but pleased when his solitary visitor stood rivetted before a masterpiece. There are two or three of the portraits which it is impossible to forget. Raffael's Duke of Urbino is, as may be imagined, supreme:—but there are others little inferior to it. Two of the most interesting are, Holbein's full-lengths of Henry the Eighth and Edward the Sixth. In spite of the revolting grossness of the father and the delicate beauty of the son, there is a likeness; the square front and vulgar look of the Tudors is visible even in the fair boy. If I were sovereign of England I would have careful copies made of the most authentic portraits of all my predecessors, and give my subjects free entrance into this historic gallery. It is far easier—as the Church of Rome knows—to reach the uncultivated mind through the eye than through the ear; and no lessons or lecturer would give the people so vivid a notion of the line of their kings as such a collection of their effigies.

The road from Petworth to Midhurst is constantly pretty,—and never more. Just before arriving at Midhurst you pass through Easebourne—one of those English villages of poetical beauty which conjure up illusions that it is almost impossible to resist. The church is the beautiful ruin of Cowdray Castle; which, after surviving the assaults of time, was burnt a few years ago, just as it had undergone a complete repair. Already it is clothed with ivy which looks the growth of centuries. The Angel at Midhurst is the perfection of a country inn. It is not new, nor large, nor showy: it has no vulgar pretensions and no discomforts. The neatness is exquisite, and the furniture, though simple, suffices for all the wants of persons of clean and delicate habits. In short, the pervading influence of good taste and refinement is felt throughout,—and the secret of the peculiar character of this house lies in the feminine sway to which it is subject. The climate of this place is said to be remarkably good, and I know not where an invalid could find a more tranquil and comfortable abode than here. The *specialité* of Midhurst seems to be, donkies of astonishing swiftness and docility. On entering the long street I had occasion to blush for my pony, which was distanced by a donkey in a little chaise; and I afterwards saw several small carriages—among them a phaeton and well-matched pair—going at a rate of which donkies are generally thought to be incapable.

We were now bound for Selbourne—White's Selbourne,—for his it will remain as long as the English language lasts:—and here, again, began the difficulty caused by the uncertain and conflicting

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statements and counsels about roads. There are two roads from Petersfield to Selbourne, and I earnestly recommend travellers to take that which winds up the lofty ascent called Stoner Hill. It reminded us strongly of the road into the Thuringian forest from Eisenach. You have here a miniature copy of those magnificent wooded sweeps down which the eye plunges from the winding road. Soon after the road becomes intricate, and the unwary traveller will be betrayed by the reports of some wayside shepherd into taking "a good road" which turns out to be a track through stones and clay. He must get into the Gosport road, and thence crawl up a long ascent which will lead him to Selbourne. Great was our joy on arriving. "There is the Plastor!—there is the old Yew!" The gentle, humane and clear spirit that has hallowed the place seemed everywhere present.

Alas! and again alas! the spirit which we found presiding there was that of Beer. At the bettermost of the two inns in the village, which had been much commended to us, the master was "just laid down," (it was about three o'clock P.M.), the mistress absolutely refused to receive us,—had no room, it was impossible. The noise in the house and out of it was stunning, and of the most disgusting kind; men lay on the ground in a state to which it would be unfair to compare swine. It was the day after the benefit club dinner, and what we beheld were the protracted orgies which succeeded it. After securing food and shelter for the pony, I walked into the village to see whether it was possible to obtain as much for ourselves. Nothing could seem more desperate than our case,—when at length a civil baker, who regretted that he could not accommodate us, volunteered to plead with the hostess, whose repulse, he said, probably proceeded only from annoyance at our seeing such a sight. So it proved. The host had roused himself and was very civil; we had a clean and pleasant room upstairs, and a substantial repast. But our Selbourne was spoiled,—the *genius loci* hunted away by these brutish revels. We took refuge in the pretty churchyard, and in the church which contains the ashes of Gilbert White, his father, grandfather, and his numerous brothers,—all distinguished men,—all dead, without leaving one descendant to perpetuate the honoured name. The last who bore it was a maiden lady,—but she too is gone. His house and garden are the property of a gentleman who has shown himself worthy to possess it by the care that he has taken to preserve it unaltered. It is in the most perfect and neat repair, but nothing is changed. The singular windows in the gables, the humble door with a small projecting roof above it, such as one sees in old cottages, bear witness to the excellent taste and pious veneration of the present owner. People generally complain that Selbourne disappoints them,—and I must confess it is less beautiful than I expected. Yet, on reading over again White's description, I cannot say that there is any exaggeration,—much less any misstatement. If he misleads us, it is only because the golden finger of genius unconsciously embellishes all that it touches. His simple and elegant description speaks to all that is most poetical in our own imaginations. He is like a great painter, whose portraits, however accurate and faithful, are inevitably informed with some of the inward beauty of his own soul. The two brooks, the sources of the Wey and the Arun, are there, though they do not flow through the village, but in a valley behind it. The "Hanger" is what he describes it: but there is no *peculiar* charm in this wooded hill nor in the view from it;—except what he has left there.

In the evening there was dancing in the field behind the inn. This appeared to me a great advance in civilization:—but no; innocent and graceful amusements are incompatible with sottishness. The coarse and bold looks of the women present showed to what class they belonged,—and we found that it would have been thought disgraceful to any decent young woman to join in the dance. I thought of the joyous and charming festivities which we had witnessed and joined in in the wild region of the Ardennes,—of the husbands who led out their pretty wives, with a look of pride, to join in the dance before the door—of the well-dressed and well-behaved young men and women—of the universal merriment, without waste, riot, or excess. Why is it that this foul spot cannot be wiped from the noble front of England?

We left Selbourne by a new road, of which people there seemed rather proud, but on which I advise nothing less than a broad wheeled waggon to venture at present,—passed through Alton, and slept at the pleasant "Bush" at Farnham. Farnham Palace is one of the most inviting residences I ever saw. The exquisite luxury of its gardens, the showers of roses festooning its old walls, the matchless velvet of its turf might excite the wonder, and perhaps the envy, of less fortunate branches of the ecclesiastical family. Imagine the reflections of a French bishop or a German "Superintendent," not to descend lower in the scale, at the sight of these delicious accompaniments to the duties of an overseer of the church!

The drive along the Hog's-back to Guildford is sufficiently known as one of the most beautiful in this beautiful county of Surrey. As a walk, it cannot be enough commended. The road lies all the way between wide pathways of the finest short turf. The air is almost mountainous,—the views are wide and cheerful, and the ascent is very gradual. We crossed it in a hurricane of wind, which puzzled the pony and his driver, but added to the wildness and beauty of the scene. Just as we were above the village of Puttenham, music came wafted on the breeze. For a moment, the sound was pleasant and cheerful;—but the thought of benefit club dinners and the orgies consequent thereupon instantly started up like a hideous spectre.

The old church near the Castle at Guildford is curious. It contains some rude fresco painting representing St. Michael weighing souls, and the departure of the condemned into hell. The Castle is inclosed within high walls. It is the property of some individual who shuts it from the public eye. Guildford is the prettiest of country towns, and all the prettier, though not the more convenient, for lying on a precipice. Few streets can show more striking objects than Abbott's Hospital, the Grammar School, and the clock of the Town House. This latter building contains two full-length portraits of Charles the Second and James the Second, said to be by Lely,—so dirty and hung in so bad a light that they might almost as well not exist. Mr. Speaker Onslow's handsome face is better treated. I recommend travellers solicitous about comfort and purse to stop at Farnham rather than at Guildford.

I have occupied enough of your space to describe a voyage round the world. But remember the object with which I set out. Let me add, that this little crawling excursion was made in that most exquisite season, the end of May,—when the earth wears her spring clothing like a bridal garment "before the soil ha' smutch'd it." The young leaves, though expanded, had not yet lost the delicate crispness of their folds, nor the bright freshness and variety of their green, which neither drought, nor blight, nor storm had dulled. The hawthorn still wore its crown of pearls, and the broom its golden pendants. If anybody can consent to leave London in "the season," he will find that for the fields and groves it is *the* season indeed.

S. A.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

By way of attempt to collect the chief elements of instruction supplied to practical and scientific men by the recent Exhibition, Prince Albert has written a letter to the Society of Arts proposing to the council that they should organize a series of lectures to be delivered at their rooms in the Adelphi on the probable bearing of the great display on the various branches of Art, Science and Industry. "The lecturer in each branch," suggests the Prince "being selected for his special knowledge and proficiency in it, it should not be his object to show the results to be expected from the Exhibition on art and industry generally, but its probable immediate effect on the particular subject of his lectures; and on this he should state his opinion freely and without reserve.—Among the subjects of such lectures I may enumerate the fine arts, chemistry as applied to manufactures, special processes of manufacture, mechanics, railroads, agriculture, tools and implements, commercial relations, political economy, &c.—Differences of opinion would probably be found to exist among the lecturers on these different subjects, as to the effect to be expected from the Exhibition; but, as each lecturer would confine himself to a particular subject, and give the result of his own reflections on that subject only, this would be of little importance.—Such lectures could not fail to direct attention most beneficially to these important studies."—The Council of the Society of Arts have passed resolutions adopting this suggestion; and certain steps have, we believe, been already made towards its realization. The most eminent men of science in the country have been or shortly will be appealed to for personal aid in carrying out the scheme,—and there is every reason to conclude that this aid will not be withheld. The collection of such a series of lectures by our Herschels, Faradays, Owens, Eastlakes and Walkers would constitute one of the most valuable and popular works connected with the Exhibition.

Letters have been received from Lady Franklin's ship, the Prince Albert, dated July 9, latitude 51° 30′ north, longitude 57° west. All were well; and Mr. Kennedy, the commander of the Expedition, observes that the discovering of the first winter quarters of the missing Expedition—which had been communicated to him by Dr. Kane, of the American ship Advance, "calls in the most loud and pressing manner for redoubled exertions on every hand." This was written in the full assurance that Capt. Austin's ships were of course occupying the field of search, and that in pressing onwards to the desired goal he would meet with them. But the Prince Albert, with her gallant and devoted little crew, is the only ship at present in the arctic waters on the side of Barrow's Straits.

We are glad to learn that the services and exertions of Capt. Penny in the Arctic regions have met with the marked approval of the Admiralty; and the terms of its expression are such as lead us to believe that he will not be passed over in the choice of commanders for the future searching Expeditions, the organization of which is at this moment engaging the attention of the Admiralty. It has been also Capt. Penny's good fortune, and that of his colleague Capt. Stewart of the Sophia, to win the esteem of their crews,—who have presented them with silver snuff-boxes. The seamen of the port of Aberdeen have voted their thanks to Capt. Penny for his distinguished services while commanding the Expedition intrusted to his charge.

We take this opportunity of mentioning that Mr. Arrowsmith has published an admirable chart showing the recent discoveries in the Arctic Seas and the tracks of the various Expeditions.

The partial repairs and restorations which will be required in the parks—that is, in Hyde and St. James's Parks and in Kensington Gardens—now that the Exhibition is over, afford a favourable opportunity for drawing attention to some of the many imperfections which characterize our present management of these invaluable inclosures. In the first place, both in Hyde Park and in St. James's, and in that portion of the latter which is called the "Inclosure," there is no provision whatever for affording shelter from the rain or other inclemencies of our climate. In Kensington Gardens there are three or four alcove seats, capable of accommodating perhaps half-a-dozen persons each; and the great convenience of these places of shelter must have been constantly apparent to those who are in the habit of frequenting that delightful pleasure ground. There appears to be no good reason why similar accommodation should not be extended to the other parks,—especially to the Inclosure. The gates of the Inclosure are fastened at the same hour as those of Kensington Gardens, and the means of strict superintendence over the one place are quite as perfect as over the other. Hyde Park and St. James's Park are less under control; but we are convinced that there is nothing in the general circumstances of the management of those parks to prevent the introduction of the small extra accommodation demanded. The public have to be grateful for the erection of

several new seats during the summer,—and for the employment of considerable ingenuity in adapting the form and material of these seats to the particular purpose which they are intended to serve. Surely, however, we shall not rest content with the present dirty, desolate and impoverished appearance of Hyde Park. The expenditure of a little more money and the exercise of a little more energy would amply suffice to alter the aspect of the whole demesne. At present the green sward is disfigured in all directions by inequalities of surface, bogs and morasses in miniature, patches, accumulations of dirt and leaves, and all the other symptoms which betoken slovenly superintendence and an inadequate supply of labour. Nor is there good reason why herds of cattle should be depastured in the parks. Let the grass be kept down and manured by droves of sheep,—as is the case in St. James's Park and the Inclosure; and if sheep-grazing be not sufficient for the purpose, surely the resources of agricultural mechanics and chemistry might be thought of. We do not write in this strain from mere fanciful considerations; but because we are convinced that the good and elevating moral effects which these parks produce in certain classes of the public would be infinitely strengthened by removing whatever at present impairs their usefulness as models of beauty, neatness, regularity, and scrupulous freedom from dirt and dilapidation. We are sure that we carry the public feeling with us in making these suggestions.

As an indication that the railroad publishing trade reform is in the way of making progress, we observe that the enterprising Messrs. Smith have obtained the exclusive right to sell books at the various stations of the South-Western Railway. The growing importance of that branch of the trade is evidenced by the large sum,—1,000*l.* a-year,—which they have agreed to pay for their rental and privilege.

The Chelsea Improvement Commissioners have at length commenced their task of providing an embankment of the Thames beyond Battersea Bridge on the Middlesex side of the river. The works of a similar kind in front of the new park in that quarter are regularly proceeding,—as are also those lower down the stream near Vauxhall Bridge. The completion of these promenades will render the advantages of practicable river banks more apparent to the many,—and doubtless hasten the time for seriously reconsidering the state of the banks and approaches between Westminster and London Bridges.

From Liverpool we learn that a project is now before the directors of various railways interested in the extension of facilities for a more ready communication with that town, which will rank, should it be carried out, with the most stupendous works of our time and country, the Britannia Bridge and the Thames Tunnel. This scheme is nothing less than a railway across the Mersey! The obstacles to be overcome are very great. At Liverpool the river is more than a mile wide—the ordinary scour of the tide is very strong—and the gales from the Irish Sea are often violent enough to sweep vessels away from their moorings and dash them to pieces. There is no doubt of the extreme desirableness of connecting Birkenhead with Liverpool by railway. The nearest way not only from Southampton and Bristol, but even from London and Birmingham to the second port in the empire is through Chester and Birkenhead. The traffic of the west of England must of course find its way to Liverpool by the most direct line,—but the passage of the river is at present a serious drawback on the advantages otherwise offered by that route. The Great Western Railway Company have by an arrangement with the Shrewsbury and Cheshire Junction Companies, secured a passage of their line as far as Birkenhead, on an agreement to abandon their project of crossing the Mersey by tunnel at Runcorn. Several great trunk lines will, therefore, soon terminate on opposite shores of the river. On the north bank will be the Manchester line—extending to Leeds and Hull; the Birmingham line, with extension to London in one direction, and to Bristol, Exeter and Plymouth in another; the Southport Branch; the Preston Junction—connected with the trunk line to Carlisle and Glasgow. On the south side there will be the Chester line—running into the railway systems of the midland and southern counties; and the Shrewsbury line—branching from Chester to Holyhead in one course, and in another touching the whole border land of Wales and joining the Western Railways at Gloucester. Every year will render an iron way across the Mersey more desirable. But it seems that an iron tube on the Stephenson plan over such a river as the Mersey is out of the question:—first, on the ground of expense,—secondly, because the piers, which would be necessary to support it would so impede the currents as to cause vast deposits in the bed of the stream. The conservators of the river oppose any such project. Mr. Cunningham, the architect of the Philharmonic Hall, proposes to sink an iron tube in the bed of the river, buried so completely below the surface as to cause no obstruction to the currents. The tube would have perpendicular sides and an arched roof. It would be placed in a prepared bed, and would be protected outwardly by various contrivances which Mr. Cunningham is prepared to submit to those interested in furthering the design. Internally there would be two lines of rails, running on each side of the tube, with a passage in the middle for pedestrians. The entire work Mr. Cunningham estimates would cost about 250,000*l.*; and he considers that it would form a complete means of transit for goods, railway passengers, and pedestrians between Liverpool and Birkenhead; besides opening a communication to and from Liverpool for all the railways feeding the Cheshire Junction. The conception is no doubt magnificent:—but a minute examination of the means to be employed in the attempt to overcome the serious difficulties of the river is necessary to the formation of any opinion as to the merits of the scheme or its chances of success. One of the great difficulties would be, we should think, the ventilation of such a tube.

It was stated a few days ago at the annual dinner of the friends of the Manchester Athenæum, that during the last year the directors have succeeded in reducing the mortgage debt of that Institution from 6,000*l.* to 3,700*l.* It was added, however, that there is an accumulated current debt of 800*l.*; and the present board, being desirous of adopting measures for the discharge of that debt, have resolved to propose the creation of 100 life members, at 10 guineas each (instead of 20 guineas, as heretofore), for this purpose. A spirited ex-mayor of the town offered to be one of twenty to find the money and discharge the liability if nineteen other good men and true can be found to take their share of this educational burthen. As he remarked, it would unquestionably be a most desirable thing "to place the institution in a position untrammelled by debt, so that all the money raised by the subscriptions of members, and from other sources, might be devoted to the legitimate object of improving the library, news-room, and classes, and generally extending the sphere of the society's operation."

A Correspondent writes to us, from Paris, as follows:—"The supine friends of toleration and intellectual liberty who trust to the natural and irresistible march of human affairs for effecting every reform, require to be reminded now and then of the active efforts of the adversaries of all improvement. For this reason it is well occasionally to record the exploits of the extinguisher-party on the Continent;—obscurantism in this country having of late kept so quiet that one might almost be lulled into the dangerous belief that it had no partizans left. One of the most curious documents to which it has given birth recently in France is a synodal letter of the Bishop of Luçon. With the religious opinions of this prelate you have, I know, no business,—but his literary excommunications come within your province. Among the books which he denounces as immoral and dangerous we notice—Anquetil's 'History of France,' Thiers' 'History of the French Revolution,' Lemaistre de Sacy's 'Translation of the New Testament,' 'Le Bonhomme Richard,' and lastly, 'Robinson Crusoe!' Facts like these require no comment."

A Correspondent says:—"Although the name of the famous printers, the Elzevirs, be in every one's mouth, there did not exist hitherto any monography of their lives and exertions, although M. Renouard had paved the way for such a work by his fine researches on the Aldi and Estienne. Following this idea, M. Ch. Pieters has published the '*Annales de l'Imprimerie Elzevirienne.*' This book is the result of very extensive researches on this subject, as there were fourteen members of that family who were printers and publishers during a period of 120 years. M. Pieters's book contains quite new data obtained from authentic sources; to which he has added a list of all the works issued from the Elzevir presses, followed by one of those which have been erroneously attributed to them, and another of such as are the continuation of works published at that famous establishment."

The French appear resolved to leave no stone unturned whereby the notable persons of their country may in turn be commemorated. Their local journals have lately been recommending the erection of a statue to Madame de Sévigné,—and M. Janin has just contributed one of his most flowery *feuilletons* in the *Journal des Débats* to the cause. Whatever be the pre-occupation of the men of France which may impede the execution of such a project, all the women of the world who are proud of the pre-eminency of their sex as letter-writers might gracefully occupy themselves in combining to honour one so graceful and womanly as the French lady.—Be it followed out or not, however, that such an idea should have been originated is curious, the period considered.

The foreign papers report the death of the Chevalier Lavy, Member of the Council of Mines in Sardinia and of the Academy of Sciences in Turin,—and described as being one of the most learned of Italian numismatists. He had created at great cost a Museum of Medals, which he presented to his country, and which bears his name.

We see it stated in the Berlin journals that Baron Alexander von Humboldt has announced the discovery at Athens of the edifice in which the Council of Four Hundred was in the habit of assembling in ancient times. Few particulars of the alleged discovery are given; but it is added, that more than a hundred inscriptions have been found by the excavators,—and that a number of columns, statues, and other relics have been already dug up.

More than once during the past summer we have remarked on the high rates of passage which prevent that general intercourse between the middle classes of England and America that is so desirable on both sides,—in the immediate interests of the two nations and for the world's future progress and tranquillity. Our prophecy that in course of time these high rates must fall to figures more within the means of our tour-making public is already, we notice, in process and promise of fulfilment. The Cunard and the Collins lines of mail steamers have both announced a reduction of 5*l.* on the previous rates—making the new fare 30*l.* The proceeding has been followed by a similar movement on the part of the proprietors of the American steam-ships Washington and Hermann; who have lowered their first-class fares between Southampton and New York from 31*l.* 10*s.* to 28*l.*, from 26*l.* 5*s.* to 24*l.* for lower deck, and in the second class from 16*l.* 16*s.* to 15*l.* It is understood, also, that in a few days the rates of passage-money by the Havre, Southampton, and New York steam-ships Franklin and Humboldt will fall to the same level as the Cunard and Collins lines. The screw steamers sailing from Glasgow are already taking passengers on more reasonable terms; and there is little fear but that eventually the active and ever increasing rivalry between the four great lines of paddle-wheel steamers and the growing confidence of the public in the screw—leading to a larger patronage of that means of conveyance—will still further diminish these rates. Monopoly of the mails and almost entire possession of the route placed a power of retaining high rates in the hands of the Cunard Company, against which warnings were uttered and protests made in vain. The active opposition of the newly commenced Collins line, however, has soon had an effect favourable to the travelling public,—and

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favourable indirectly to the great public who do not travel, but whose honour and interests are involved in the cultivation of a friendly feeling and a habit of free intercourse between our countrymen and the citizens of the United States. There is still room for a large reduction in the fares. Increased speed should lead to reduced cost:—as by it many sources of expense are destroyed,—of which the tourist and the traveller should reap the benefit.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN is exhibited immediately preceding the Diorama of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Docks, Cintra, the Tagus, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mausoleum, "The Taj Mehal," the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior.—Daily, at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

The GREAT DIORAMA of JERUSALEM and the HOLY LAND, ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, HYDE PARK CORNER, by Messrs. Bartlett and Beverly.—An entire section of this grand SERIES of PICTURES is devoted to the Holy City, with its solemn and interesting associations, including BETHANY, MOUNT of OLIVES, GARDEN of GETHSEMANE, VALLEY of JEHOSHAPHAT, POOL of SILOAM, MOUNT ZION, SITE of SOLOMON'S TEMPLE, JEWS' PLACE of WAILING, and the HOLY SEPULCHRE,—with Magnificent Views of JERUSALEM, and accompanied by GRAND SACRED VOCAL MUSIC. DAILY, at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.
ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, HYDE PARK CORNER.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION AND THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—All the MOST INTERESTING DEPOSITS which have been at the GREAT EXHIBITION will, in turn, be LECTURED ON at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The PRESENT LECTURES are by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the Application of IRON and STEEL in the MANUFACTURES of the UNITED KINGDOM; and by Dr. Bachhoffner on ELECTRO-METALLIC DEPOSITS, illustrated by a SPLENDID SERIES of Messrs. Elkington's SPECIMENS; and followed by an explanation of Bakewell's Patent Copying Electric Telegraph.—The Exhibition of the OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE, magnifying objects upwards of 1,000,000 times their natural size.—The great economy of COOKING by GAS explained.—A LECTURE on the HISTORY of the HARP, by Frederick Chatterton, Esq., with Vocal Illustrations.—A SERIES of SPLENDID DISSOLVING VIEWS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five, and every evening from Seven till half past Ten.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

Microscopical.—*Oct.* 22.—Dr. A. Fane in the chair.—Mr. J. Howard was elected a member.—Mr. Shadbolt read a paper 'On the Stellate Sporangia of various species of Confervæ.' After alluding to a previous paper on the same subject, he proceeded to describe the appearances presented by the sporangia of various species of confervæ,—more especially of the genera Zygnæma, Lyngbya, Tyndaridea, and Vesiculifera. In all these cases the sporangia were more or less stellate, giving them the appearance of the various species of Xanthidia. The spines of the species of Zygnæma were longest, and sometimes bifurcate. In Lyngbya they were small, and arranged in a spiral manner around the sporangium. In Vesiculifera the spines were very minute.—The Chairman exhibited specimens of the pupa of *Cassida viridis*,—a minute creature found on the under side of the leaves of the common maple *(Acer campestris)*.—Mr. Busk described the appearance of some marine Diatomaceæ which he had observed collected together in a membranous tube, and which seemed to be connected with the developement of the organisms which it embraced.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Tues.	Horticultural, 2.
—	Linnean, 8.
—	Pathological, 8.
Wed.	Geological, half-past 8.—'Notice of the Occurrence of an Earthquake in Chili,'—'On the Cambrian, Silurian, and Devonian Rocks of Cornwall and Devon,' by Prof. Sedgwick.
Thurs.	Zoological, 3.—General Business.
Fri.	Archæological Institute, 4.
—	Botanical, 8.
Sat.	Medical, 8.

FINE ARTS

Architectural Publication Society. Part I. of Volume for 1850-51. Twelve Plates.

Without at all wishing to discourage a laudable undertaking, we must say that this work has not hitherto proved so satisfactory as it might have been, as regards either its literary or its graphic portion. It is certainly disappointing to get in lieu of fresh matter extracts from Fuller and reprints of antiquated tracts by Sir Balthazar Gerbier and Norden. The original papers that have as yet appeared are of no great or immediate interest:—the two which may perhaps be of most use to the practical man (those on Heat and on Ventilation) appear to be somewhat out of place printed in such form and in a work chiefly intended to promote the study of Fine-Art architecture. We look forward, however, with no small expectation to the main literary part of the undertaking,—the promised Cyclopædia of Architecture:—a work worthy of the efforts of a Society, and such as can be properly executed only by the joint labours of such a body. If we may judge from the lists which have been given of the intended articles as far as the letter N, this work will be an exceedingly comprehensive one—on a scale never before attempted for anything of its particular kind. The department of architectural biography, foreign as well as English, will be copious beyond all precedent, and brought down as nearly as possible to the actual time of publication. "Poliography," or the description of cities and their principal buildings, will be a feature equally novel and desirable. We sincerely trust, then, that the magnitude of the scheme will not prevent its being accomplished in exact conformity with what may be called the Prospectus,—that its difficulties have been duly considered, the requisite co-operation secured,—and that once commenced, the Cyclopædia will be carried uninterruptedly on, with all possible diligence and with unwearying energy.

Of text, the Part now before us contains no more than four pages of letter-press, briefly descriptive of the plates (52 to 63 inclusive). The subjects of these plates appear to us to be chosen somewhat too arbitrarily and vaguely to illustrate their respective subjects as well as could be desired. With few exceptions, they possess the recommendation of making us acquainted with unedited or little-known examples contributed from the portfolios of some of our travelled architects who have made sketches on the spot of what struck them as worth being noted down. The examples are, accordingly, for the greater part shown more pictorially than architecturally,—so as to convey a sufficient general idea of what is represented, but not so as to enable us to understand the particulars and detail. What is still more to be regretted is, that most of the subjects seem to have been chosen rather for their singularity or their quaintness than for any positive merit,—for their departure from, rather than their accordance with, æsthetic principles. More than one amongst them exhibit not only unwarrantable caprice, but such downright deformity, too, that they would be appropriately placed in a work on morbid architecture:—and perhaps a work of that kind might be no less useful in its way than one on morbid anatomy. It is true, the examples here given are not offered as *exemplars* also; yet there is danger of their being mistaken by some as proposed for imitation. In any case, they are ill calculated to improve taste. It strikes us, moreover, as a defect, greatly impairing the utility of the work, that, instead of being taken chiefly from the styles now actually practised, the illustrations exhibit a medley of odds and ends from all styles,—while applicability to present purposes seems to be entirely lost sight of, and modern improvements and contrivances are wholly overlooked. Some of the subjects, again, can hardly be received as belonging to the head under which they are classed. For instance,—although the fronts of Flemish street-houses of the seventeenth century might be accepted as specimens of "Flemish architecture," they are surely misplaced under the head 'Façade:'—a term usually associated with the idea, not of any front indifferently, but of a building of more than ordinary magnitude and pretension.—All that we will further say is, that the architecture of the last and present centuries has not been thought worthy of contributing anything towards these illustrations.

Fine-Art Gossip.—On Saturday week died Mr. Samuel Beaseley, the architect, in the seventieth year of his age. As architect and surveyor of the Drury Lane Committee and controller of the works at Her Majesty's Theatre, he superintended many alterations, additions, and improvements at both establishments. Among his public works are several other theatres:—the Lyceum, the St. James's Theatre, and the Theatre Royal Dublin being of the number.—Mr. Beaseley had contributed to the theatre in another character than his professional one. For the old English Opera House he wrote several farces and burlettas.—He was the author of at least two novels, 'The Oxonian' and 'The Roué,'—which belonged to a bad school, and are probably forgotten.

A Roman mosaic pavement of great beauty has been brought to light at Aumale, one of the French colonies of Algeria. Although much injured in parts—having been discovered in a yard surrounded by stables and constantly trodden by horses,—there still remains an extent of about seventeen feet by six in a good state of preservation. It is divided into several squares or compartments representing mythological subjects. One of these is particularly curious from the circumstance that the subject which it retraces is evidently of a local nature. It represents a female figure—apparently a native, from the colour of the skin—with no other drapery than a panther's skin thrown over the head and shoulders. In the right hand is a pick-axe, and in the left are a couple of wild ducks. M. Berbrugger, the learned librarian of Algiers, who has been commissioned by the local Government to superintend the removal to Algiers of this curious relic, supposes this compartment to represent a native woman in the act of leaving her agricultural labours to join—in obedience to pagan ordinances—a bacchanalian procession; and observes, that to this day the women of Aumale take an active part in the toils of the field, contrary to the usual custom of the rest of the country.—The French paper from which we borrow these details mentions that in a Roman cemetery near Aumale several curious remains and inscriptions have been discovered. The following epitaph we think worth transcribing for our readers:—

.... itas .... re
issima cultrix
Pudicitiæ famæ
Quæ vixit sine
Febribus annis
XXVI

The above does not say much for the salubrity of Aumale,—and would lead us to suppose that it was as wonderful two thousand years ago as in the present day to live there six-and-twenty years exempt from "*the fevers.*"

The Gallery of Apollo at the Louvre—so called from the centre subject of the ceiling, which represents Apollo slaying the serpent Python—has been recently thrown open to the Parisian public after a complete restoration. Many persons were scarcely aware of the existence of this splendid gallery, which for its excessive decoration and architectural grandeur may be compared to that of Versailles. For nearly a century it has been virtually closed against the public; having been formerly partitioned off into rooms for the use of artists,—and in latter years, when occasionally thrown open for the Exhibitions of works of living artists, it was disfigured by a partition dividing it lengthwise upon which drawings and engravings were suspended. Some of our readers may remember this dim narrow passage,—which certainly conveyed no idea of the vast proportions of the apartment that it mutilated. Built in the reign of Henry the Fourth, and curiously decorated in the first instance with a suite of full-length portraits of the kings and queens of France since the days of St. Louis, the gallery was almost entirely destroyed by the fire which broke out in that wing of the Louvre in 1661. The four walls alone remained,—when under Louis the Fourteenth Lebrun was intrusted with its restoration with absolute authority over the architects and sculptors whom he might choose to employ. His own work as a painter he left unfinished,—and such portions of the undertaking in the sculptural and architectural departments as were completed under his directions are perhaps more magnificent than tasteful. The whole, though heavy, produces an imposing effect; and has been easily restored to its first state,—most of the figures being in plaster. The execution of the centre piece, which represents the triumph of Apollo, has been confided to M. Delaroche:—whose work appears to have given general satisfaction. There are three reasons, how-

ever, which in our opinion render it difficult to admire this:—it is a most complicated allegorical composition,—it is painted on a ceiling thirty feet from the ground,—and lastly, it exhibits that gorgeous colouring habitual to the modern French school. This latter defect, it must be said, was perhaps almost necessary to make it harmonize with the rest of the decorations.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Allegro Brillante, for two Performers on the Pianoforte. Composed by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Op. 92. Posthumous Works, No. 21. —*The Music of the 'Œdipus at Colonos.'* Composed by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy; the English Lyrics, written and adapted to the music by W. Bartholomew. Op. 93.—*Infelice! Scena for a Soprano, with an Accompaniment for the Pianoforte.* The English version by W. Bartholomew, the music by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Op. 94. Posthumous Works, No. 23.—*Concert für die Violine, mit Begleitung des Orchesters, componirt von Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy.* Op. 64. *Arrangement für das Pianoforte zu vier Händen.—Concerto for the Violin, arranged for two Performers on the Pianoforte.*—We have more than once called attention to the variety and finish of the works produced by Mendelssohn during his too short life. The first three compositions on our list—all of their kind important ones—and now published posthumously—illustrate the early and late stages of their writer's career. The *Scena* for a *soprano* was composed many years ago, and, if we mistake not, has been altered:—the MS. having been long confined to the library of the Philharmonic Concerts, at which we have heard it sung by Madame Caradori Allan. It belongs to the period of every musical thinker's life at which his science is apt to be "bitter" (Mendelssohn's own word), pedantic and self-asserting; and when it is difficult for him to fall into the service of the singers, whose servant as well as master he nevertheless must be if he would deserve the name of a vocal composer. To measure the immense progress made by Mendelssohn in beauty, character and freshness of melody, we need only compare the subjects of this concert song with those of the Violin *Concerto* which stands last on our list. Lovelier melodies than the latter do not exist:—in the former case the want of melody amounts to a drawback on the popularity of a composition in which passion and constructive skill are present in no common quality.

When the 'Œdipus' music was last year performed at Mrs. Anderson's Concert, a sketch was offered [*Athen.* No. 1181] of its leading features and characteristics. To this we have not much to add on more tranquilly making acquaintance with the music in its published form. The ingenuity by which so many scattered fragments of text to be set have been brought within the bounds of symmetrical outline and coherent structure—the distinct character which renders the composition unlike any sacred or profane music extant—the grave and dignified beauty—and, within possible conditions, the great variety comprised in the work—become more clearly evident with familiarity. We are anew penetrated with the rich loveliness of the chorus No. 3, 'Thou comest here to the land, O friend.' This is in music what some full yet not over-crowded, some attractive yet not meretricious, frieze is in sculpture; combining the fancy of a poetical dream with the reality of a thoughtful and highly finished work of Art. It may be studied, too, as a remarkable example of climax:—the interest and animation of the movements growing by aid of a natural sequence of idea; not dependent on those startling artifices of orchestration which never stand in stead of the strong thoughts of a true inventor spontaneously originated, to be legitimately wrought out.* In addition to the above-mentioned pieces, the storm chorus and the solemn invocation 'If we may call on thee, night-veiled Proserpine'—which last year passed unnoticed, owing to the imperfection of the Covent Garden choristers—must be now specified as sustaining the interest of the work, and testifying how deeply and intensely Mendelssohn was penetrated with his subject. But while these choruses and those of the 'Antigone' will long occupy a place of their own in Music, we shall never cease to regret that, owing to the necessities of their form, there is small hope of their being so often well executed as to become familiar friends of the public:—and further, that in Mendelssohn's four impracticable and therefore *uncomfortable* theatrical works there is buried as much labour as, if bestowed on a healthy and happy dramatic fable, might have enriched the stage with another treasure in addition to its present small number of operatic masterpieces.

The *Allegro Brillante* deserves its name. As a duett at once spirited and solid—its interest divided between the players with the justice of a Rhadamanthus—and its difficulty sufficient to prevent attention from flagging, or pleasure from wearing out because of its cheapness,—this single movement is an addition to the pianoforte library of too rare value in these degenerate days.

A line is claimed by the ingenious and practicable arrangement of the Violin *Concerto* which closes our list. As much has been done as could well be done; and, as a remembrancer to those who know and love the original composition, the transcript deserves no common praise. Our respect for it is increased by knowing it to be the work of an amateur. How much more acceptable is such a fruit of amateur pursuit than the insipid and imitative productions which call themselves compositions—for which the indulgence of reluctant critics is bespoken because their authors choose to have the praise without the pains of labour!

* A couple of instances will illustrate what is meant in the above distinction betwixt the climax of continuity and the climax of surprise. Of the former Handel has given as a perfect model in his Messiah 'Hallelujah,'—where the repetition of the long note on "King of kings," rising by the simplest of progressions, gives an almost gigantic force to the last full chord on G where the voices explode. Of the latter M. Meyerbeer has afforded possibly the most effective example extant in his 'Bénédiction des Poignards.' Only a sterling thought is susceptible of continuous treatment without becoming intolerably monotonous; whereas a poor idea may mystify the ear if new colours and draperies are artfully crowded over it to conceal its meagreness. But which of the two effects when regarded dispassionately is intrinsically the more valuable?

Sadler's Wells.—On Monday the fine play of 'Ingomar' was transferred to the boards of this theatre; where it is reproduced with new scenery and accessories, some of which are improvements on the original performance. More than one of the subordinate characters were, however, sustained by their first representatives. That of *Polydor* by Mr. Ray was eminently artistic; and in the last act, where the miser crouches apart in fear of the Alemanni, he presented an admirable picture of terror and meanness. The part of *Ingomar* is one particularly suited to Mr. Phelps:—the rough and salient points of the character were brought out by him into strong relief. Nor was the change in his feelings less ably interpreted:—the tenderness and pathos of the latter scenes went to the heart. Altogether, we have rarely seen Mr. Phelps to more advantage. Miss Fanny Vining, as *Parthenia*, though not quite lively and young enough, acted throughout with propriety and grace. Mrs. Marston as her mother, shallow, domestic, suspicious and self-opiniated, made a full-length portrait of a mere dramatic sketch,—and contrived to vary, with her comic power, the interest of the situations in which she participated. The *mise en scène* was, as usual at this house, well attended to; though we would recommend to the stage-manager the suggestion that, in his grouping of crowds he should not suffer them to press so closely on the principals as he is in the habit of doing. It produces confusion; and by defrauding the chief actors of the distinction due to them, deprives the picture of a central point,—and so, of that unity which is essential to a work of Art. This was particularly the case where the Alemanni were shown as surrounding Ingomar and Parthenia in moments of peril and excitement.—This charming drama may now be accepted as having secured a home on the English stage; and we again congratulate Mrs. Lovell on having transplanted to its soil a foreign production so delicate in its structure, so good in its purpose, and so likely to live under its new conditions as the noble play of 'Ingomar.'

Olympic. — On Thursday we witnessed the *Pauline* of Miss Laura Keene,—whose *debût* at this theatre took place on Tuesday, at the benefit of Mr. H. Farren. She had previously appeared at Richmond, and we believe occasionally at other theatres. This lady possesses certain decided advantages for the stage, in a neat person and elegant bearing,—her action is well studied,—and although she certainly was not equal to the physical exertion required by the more powerful situations, in the more pathetic scenes she succeeded in touching the sympathies.—We must defer our ultimate opinion on her claims until we can further test the extent of her energies,—though of her intelligence there is no reason whatever to doubt.

Punch's Playhouse.—A new farce was produced on Monday,—an adaptation from the French, by Mr. Morris Barnett. It is entitled 'Circumstantial Evidence;' and the hero is represented by Mr. Belton,—who during the recess at the Princess's Theatre is starring it at this house.—The results of the kind of evidence predicated in the title of the play are what the Germans call subjective; they exist in the culprit's terrors, not in the fact that justice is in actual pursuit of its victim. A poet, in love with his laundress, has reason to believe that he has driven her to suicide by his conduct,—and is afraid that he will be suspected of her murder. He bribes a pot-boy to keep his terrible secret. The pot-boy, admirably performed by Mr. Rogers, happens himself to be enamoured of the heroine, and feels not a little jealous of his rival; and as he is ignorant of the secret which he is bribed to keep, the situation in which he finds himself becomes exceedingly humorous,—wonder and suspicion being its principal elements. The lady in question at length appears, alive and in good health;—but the consequences of the amour are fatal to the hopes of her faithless swain, whose purposed marriage into a respectable family is precluded by the scandal arising from the occurrence.

The new farce was followed by a new burlesque —'Peleus and Thetis.' These classical subjects afford slender materials for a plot;—but the obvious contrast between the topics and their mode of treatment makes the task of producing extravagant effects in style comparatively easy. The dialogue is vivid, sparkling, and well-tempered; and this piece, as well as the preceding, was successful.

Musical and Dramatic Gossip.—The *Society of British Musicians*, nothing daunted by the failure of eighteen seasons totally unproductive of British music, is about to re-commence its chamber concerts at the rooms of Mr. Erat, in Berners Street, early in November.—M. Jullien's Promenade Concerts are announced to begin for their short winter season at Drury Lane on Monday week. After they are over, it is possible that Mr. Bunn may commence his *opera*-tions; regarding which, however, no reports are as yet current.

The musical news of the week from Paris is rather of promise than of performance. The rehearsals of M. Halévy's new grand opera 'Le Juif Errant' at the *Académie* are now in progress, with a view to the early production of that work. —The engagement of Mdlle. Alboni is coming to an end. "She will leave us," says the *Gazette Musicale*, "without any period being fixed for her return." Delicious though she be as a vocalist, we suspect that the Parisians have discovered her inability to sustain a grand opera as *prima donna*. —Mdlle. Corbari has been singing the principal part in Donizetti's 'Lucia' for Mr. Lumley without much success.—A one-act operetta by M. Gautier has been given at the *Opéra National*.

The opera composed by M. Duprez, which was to have been produced in London during the past season, is now in rehearsal at Brussels, where Mdlle. Caroline Duprez is at present singing.—The revival of Spontini's 'Olympia' at Berlin is said by Herr Relistab to have been successful: and he lavishes praise on the ladies who took the principal parts—Mdlle. Wagner and Madame Köster,—commending them (let the fitness of the simile be admired) as the "two fair Caryatides" who sup-

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ported the work. In passion and in the majesty of her action Mdlle. Wagner is asserted to have surpassed even Madame Milder, who in her day was the delight of the German classicists.—'I Gladiatori,' an opera by Signor Foroni, apparently one of M. Meyerbeer's Italian imitators, has been produced at the *Teatro Canobbiana* at Milan, with little success.

A rumour is in town—good, we suspect, only to be contradicted—that, in the event of Mr. Gye being able to secure the magnificent Mdlle. Wagner mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, M. Meyerbeer has engaged to give his 'L'Africaine' at Covent Garden, in the course of next season.

We learn from a source to be relied on, that the mastership of the Musical College at Cologne, vacated by the departure of Herr Ferdinand Hiller, will most probably be filled by Herr David, the admirable musician and violin-player, — Dr. Liszt, to whom it was offered, having determined not to leave Weimar. Thanks to his continuance there, the operatic repertory of that little capital becomes as much an object of interest and curiosity as those of Berlin, Vienna, and Milan. Besides the 'Benvenuto Cellini' of M. Berlioz, it is purposed to produce during the coming season 'Alfonso and Estrella,'—an unpublished work by Schubert; also, a comic opera, by M. Vesque von Puttlingen, — whose works, under the pseudonyme of Hoven, have gained considerable popularity in South Germany.

It is a noticeable sign of our times, that the world increasingly interests itself with the artist beyond the range of his art. The church-goings and charities of a *prima donna* do their part in filling the theatre as well as her D sharp *altissimo e pianissimo*. The *tertulias* of an ex-Parisian *contralto* at her hotel in Lisbon, and her lively insolent repartees, tend to swell the throng in the stalls when she plays *Arsace*.—We now perceive that the verses and *calembourgs* of M. Roger have been going the round of the German papers, while that clever tenor singer has been going the round of the German opera houses; and that great part of a confidential letter from him to friends in Paris—meant, we presume, to be published—has appeared in the *Gazette Musicale*. This publicity has its good and its bad side. It may have some favourable influence on the morals and education of the singer, who may be induced to try for a Montyon prize, or to achieve conversational distinction, in proportion as the result bears on his benefit. To be more serious, — virtue and accomplishment can hardly fail to tell on the art of an artist. On the other hand, the public is thereby tempted to mix up heterogeneous merits in its admiration, and to make confusions in its idolatry; and hence the standard of judgment is disturbed. To return, however, from this speculation,—it appears that few strangers have been so popular in Germany as M. Roger. A special benefit was awarded to him at the close of his Berlin engagement, by express royal interference :—the ordinance which commanded this setting forth that no artist during the last fifty years had been so profitable to the theatre.

We have news from the Land of Promise that Miss Catherine Hayes has been entirely successful in her appearance there. Some of the American journals commend her as the most magnificent of living songstresses.—They announce, also, that Mdlle. Jenny Lind is about to re-commence her professional tour, with a new troop of playfellows. By some it is declared that she will re-appear on the stage :—and this rumour seems to us probable in proportion as it is denied. Something must be done to keep up "the enthusiasm,"—and we can conceive no measure better calculated to produce the desired effect. It would be a good hearing for the world were Mdlle. Lind, on returning to Europe, to devote her art a little to Art as well as to Charity,—by becoming a member of some operatic *corps*, with competent assistants and supporters, and forgetting "the star" in the interpreter. Why should she not do her part in re-producing such glorious days for Opera as those in which Pasta and Sontag, and Sontag and Malibran, at once set off each other, and were spurred to the utmost brilliancy and passion by the neighbourhood of powers no less than their own?—It is said that Herr Pischek has signed an engagement for America,—the sum of eighty thousand florins having been guaranteed to him.

The annual meeting for the distribution of prizes of the *Gymnase Musical Militaire* took place not long since in Paris, and was more than usually satisfactory. The performance of the pupils after the distribution of prizes was in some cases remarkably good, and showed the striking progress effected of late years in a branch of art in which France had allowed herself to be surpassed by most of her Continental neighbours. The vicissitudes of Musical Art applied to military purposes have been great among the French. Under Louis the Fourteenth we find it for the first time considered of any importance; and we see Lulli, the great composer, condescending to compose Marches for the Mousquetaires,—by order of the king. Under his two immediate successors military music was once more neglected; and Rousseau could write with truth that "the most warlike nation on earth possessed the most discordant military music." He perhaps went too far in asserting that this deficiency of harmony caused the death of many a brave soldier, for that "the peasants of Bohemia, Austria and Bavaria, not believing it possible that regular troops should have such detestable instruments, often mistook a corps of veterans for a set of raw recruits." The *Conservatoire National*, founded by the Convention in 1795, somewhat improved this state of things; but could hardly, notwithstanding its rapid developement, furnish musicians to the fourteen armies of the Republic. These, however, managed to march to the frontier with or without music,—and generally found the 'Marseillaise,' sung by their own voices, sufficiently inspiriting. The days of the Consulate were less tuneful still. Bonaparte, who was in want both of men and of horses, struck music entirely out of the budget of the cavalry; and it was only on his accession to the Empire that he turned his attention to what may be termed the ornamental part of war. Then, indeed, the impulse given—like all those which he gave—was powerful and direct, but not of sufficiently long duration to achieve any permanent result. Under the Restoration military music again fell into singular disfavour. Regiments were limited as to their clarinets, stinted in their bassoons and cymbals, and absolutely deprived of flutes, trombones, &c. But the desire for Music had grown popular, and there were few regiments who did not subscribe the necessary sum for completing their bands. This pursuit of harmony under difficulties was continued until 1835; when the *Gymnase Musical*, which has been the occasion of these remarks, was founded, with the view of forming pupils who should, in their turn, dispense musical instruction throughout their different regiments. It has been for many years under the direction of M. Carafa, the well-known composer :—who is the better fitted for the situation from the circumstance of his having been formerly a military man. The *Gymnase*, which numbered at first only ninety pupils, now instructs two hundred and thirty; and the very perceptible improvement that has taken place in military music of late years throughout France must be attributed mainly to the musical instruction which it has served to diffuse.

A new mode of carrying on the war of "order" against "anarchy" has just been devised by our mercurial neighbours across the Channel. Since the year 1848, when the "most exquisite" of the Faubourg ran into nightly ecstacies at Rachel's recitation of the *Marseillaise* at the *Théâtre Français*, the more courtly theatres in Paris let off occasional squibs and crackers at republican and socialist opinions. But the Government has at length determined to make the stage a regular and constant arena of discussion. It is announced that 5,000 francs will be awarded by the State to the author of a successful dramatic work in four or five acts, in prose or in verse, represented at the *Théâtre Français*, which shall be moral in character and brilliant in execution. 3,000 francs are to be given for a piece of the like character, of less than four acts, if represented with success at the same theatre. 5,000 francs are promised to the author of a work in four or five acts, in prose or in verse, represented with success at any theatre in Paris, or even, if given for the first time in a provincial theatre, "which shall be of a class to serve in the instruction of the labouring classes, by the propagation of sound ideas and the spectacle of good examples." A commission, consisting of the director of the department of fine arts, of four members of the Academy, and of four members of the commission of the theatres, has been appointed to report on the pieces to be recompensed,—and the Minister is to choose the author from the list which it is to present. The funds are to be taken from the subvention of the *Théâtre Français*, and from the budget of the fine arts.—We much doubt whether the theatres or the arts will gain anything by this change.

The account of an unrehearsed scene recently enacted without the doors of the *Théâtre Ambigu-Comique* of Paris has made the circuit of the Parisian papers. It appears that one of the minor theatrical critics, M. Gaiffe, had displeased the management, till the latter in its managerial vindictiveness determined not merely to cut off M. Gaiffe's privileges, but (it appears) absolutely to forbid his personal entrance into the house. On the first performance of a new melo-drama, M. Gaiffe, on presenting himself within the barriers, was desired to withdraw :—there was no place for him in the *Ambigu-Comique*. After having tried and tired the whole army of check-takers—having come and gone, waxing warmer and warmer, it may be supposed, under every fresh rebuff,—M. Gaiffe had recourse to the authorities. He fetched national guardsmen, *sergens de ville*, and every other official that could be found at hand and willing to act. These, too, were resisted. In despair, M. Gaiffe bethought him of intimidation by soliciting the aid of brother journalists, and successively appealed to M. de Musset and M. Théophile Gauthier. But the *Cerberi* of the *Ambigu* were deaf to the charming of even these lively gentlemen. Last of all,—very much as the Porteous rioters raised the cry of "*Try it with fire!*" after all less cogent measures of opening the Tolbooth had failed, —some one said "*Call Janin!*"—and the *feuilletoniste* of the *Journal des Débats* was called accordingly. On his pronouncing in favour of M. Gaiffe, the matter ended. Bars fell at once,—doors were thrown open,—and the triumphant critic was installed by his comrades of the press in one of the best seats in the theatre. — There is not much perhaps in the fact itself. Being men, managers will have their grievances and their short-sighted devices for retribution and vengeance in France as well as in England. But the stress laid on the incident, at such an anxious time as the present must be in France, is whimsically distinctive of the proceedings of our neighbours.—While on the subject of French theatricals, we may here advert to the re-opening of the *Théâtre Vaudeville* under a new management.—The new piece written to display Mdlle. Dejazet, "Ouistiti," narrowly escaped being a complete failure, owing to its containing an Ethiopian part: —on the first evening enacted by the piquant and ever-green actress with a black face. Since Mdlle. Dejazet has laid by correctness and jet, and shown herself in her true colours, the piece—an absurd, not to say a repulsive one — seems to have recovered itself, and to draw a public.

We learn by a correspondence in the *Montreal Courier* that a monster palace is about to be opened by an American speculator, out-doing the old floating theatre on the Mississippi which was described by American tourists some dozen years ago. This time, besides an arena for dramatic performances, accommodation is provided for a circus and a menagerie. The length of the float is to be 400 feet, the beam 60 feet; there is to be room for 4,000 spectators. The vast machine will be towed up and down the rivers in summer, and stationed near the Levee at New Orleans in the winter months for the regular theatrical season.—This dramatic ship is expected to be ready for launching in the coming spring.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—E. A. C.—C. P.—A Looker-on—G. N. O.—A Juror—S. T.—A. J. W.—received.

R. W. B.—Why does not this correspondent address the periodical in which the translation is supposed to have appeared?

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PLATE.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manufacturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank of England.—The best wrought SILVER SPOONS and FORKS, Fiddle pattern, 7s. 4d. per ounce; Queen's pattern, 7s. 6d. per ounce. The following are the weights recommended, but the articles may be had lighter or heavier at the same price per ounce:—

Fiddle Pattern.	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.	Queen's Pattern.	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Spoons	30 at	7 4	11 0 0	12 Table Spoons	40 at	7 6	15 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	20	7 4	7 6 8	12 Dessert ditto	26	7 6	9 15 0
12 Table Forks	30	7 4	11 0 0	12 Table Forks	40	7 6	15 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	20	7 4	7 6 8	12 Dessert ditto	26	7 6	9 15 0
2 Gravy Spoons	10	7 4	3 13 4	2 Gravy Spoons	12	7 6	4 10 0
1 Soup Ladle	10	7 4	3 13 4	1 Soup Ladle	16	7 6	4 10 0
4 Sauce ditto	10	7 10	3 18 4	4 Sauce ditto	12	8 0	4 16 0
4 Salt Spoons (gilt strong)			1 0 0	4 Salt Spoons (strong gilt)			2 2 0
1 Fish Slice			2 10 0	1 Fish Slice			3 0 0
12 Tea Spoons	10	7 10	3 18 4	12 Tea Spoons	14	8 0	5 12 0
1 Pair Sugar Tongs			0 13 6	1 Pair Sugar Tongs			1 5 0

The Guide to the extensive Stock in the show rooms contains the weights and descriptions of Silver Plate, of London manufacture, with copious information respecting Sheffield or Electro-plated Ware, illustrated with engravings. It may be had gratis, or will be forwarded, post free, on application.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manufacturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank.

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"Yours, &c. H. Rice.

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the only natural, pleasant, and effectual remedy (without medicine, purging, inconvenience, or expense, as it saves 50 times its cost in other remedies) for nervous, stomachic, intestinal, liver and bilious complaints, however deeply rooted, dyspepsia (indigestion), habitual constipation, diarrhœa, acidity, heartburn, flatulency, oppression, distension, palpitation, eruption of the skin, rheumatism, gout, dropsy, sickness at the stomach during pregnancy, at sea, and under all other circumstances, debility in the aged as well as infants, fits, spasms, cramps, paralysis, &c.

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CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple but certain remedy, to all who suffer from Indigestion, Sick Headache, Bilious and Liver Complaints, Heartburn, and Acidity of the Stomach, Depressed Spirits, Disturbed Sleep, Violent Palpitations, Spasms, General Debility, Costiveness, &c. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use. Sold in bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, in every Town in the Kingdom.

CAUTION.—Be sure to ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT and PILLS have effectually Cured a BAD LEG of Thirty Years' Suffering.—Mr. Wm. Abbs, builder, of Gas Ovens, Rushcliffe, near Huddersfield, suffered for a period of thirty years from a bad leg, which was accompanied by strong scorbutic symptoms. He had recourse to various medical men for advice without obtaining relief, and was told by one of them that the leg must be amputated; notwithstanding all this he has recently been cured by the use of Holloway's Ointment and Pills, although he has attained the venerable age of 70 years. The truth of this statement can be verified by Mr. England, chemist, Huddersfield.—Sold by all druggists; and at Professor Holloway's establishment, 244, Strand, London.

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DICKINSON'S COMPREHENSIVE PICTURES OF

THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851,

By Messrs. NASH, HAGHE, and ROBERTS, R.A.

Published under the Express Sanction of His Royal Highness Prince Albert,

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

This superb Series of Pictures, embracing every important Department of the Great Exhibition, and the principal objects of Art and Manufacture, painted for Her Majesty and Prince Albert, will be published (with the Royal Permission) by Messrs. Dickinson, of 114, New Bond Street, Her Majesty's Publishers, in Coloured Fac-similes of the Originals. The First Part will shortly appear.

All the most beautiful, interesting, and informing features of this grand assemblage of the Industrial Arts and Manufactures of all Nations are consecutively depicted in Fifty Pictures, mainly painted in the building, by Messrs. Joseph Nash, Louis Haghe, and David Roberts, R.A. The unique and magnificent spectacle, now passed away, is represented in this Series with all that vast reality of colour and effect obtainable by the distinguished talents of these Artists, who are eminent for combining beauty in detail with truth of character; and these Representations will enable any one who has not seen the Exhibition to form a complete and distinct idea of the varied aspects of that vast Collection, while those who have enjoyed this high gratification will find every leading object and point of view recalled to memory. Indeed, it may be with truth asserted, that the Great Exhibition of 1851, with all its charms of light and colour, now exists only in these Pictorial Records of its actual appearance.

The following list of the various subjects selected, with a mention of some of the most prominent objects represented, will convey some idea of the variety and comprehensiveness of the information embodied in this work. The work, composed of Fifty Plates RICHLY COLOURED, (ranging in size and character with Nash's *Old English Mansions* and *Roberts's Spain*, &c.,) will be completed in FIFTEEN PARTS to appear at short intervals; each Part containing, at least, three Coloured Fac-simile Drawings, with descriptive Letter-press.

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LIST OF SUBJECTS.

Foreign Subjects.

I. America, from the North-west End:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Water Vase, made of fine Brick Clay, by Salt & Mear, Cincinnati—Sioux Saddle and Hunting Belt—Greek Slave—Case of Cheap American Newspapers—Zinc Ore, from New Jersey; weight, 16,400 lb.—Model of the "Falls of Niagara"—The "Rider" Iron Truss Bridge, and Vulcanized India Rubber Trophy "Goodyear"—In gallery, Gray & Davidson's Organ, &c.—Zollverein Linen Department.

II. Russia:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Gilt Bronze Candelabras, by Krumbigel—Large Vase from Imperial China Manufactory, St. Petersburgh—Centre Piece and other works in Silver, by Sazikoff—Malachite Ornaments, &c. (Demidoff)—Case of Jewels, by Seltzner & Bewsershon—Malachite Doors and Vases—Inlaid Flooring—Stained Glass in Gallery.

III. North Germany:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Musical Instruments, by Glier & Son, Klingenthal—Brass Wire Cages, by Kitcher—Miss Berenhardine's Embroidered Portraits of Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales—Relief, in Plaster, illustration of Northern Mythology—Model of the Lorley, by Engelhard—Mosaic Table Tops—Transparencies—Brass Chandelier, by Bernstorff & Eichwede—Rosewood Phaeton, bought for the Queen of Spain.

IV. Holland:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Zeeger's Imitation Chinese Screen—Mr. Hope's Jewels—Van Hampen's Case of Silver Ornaments—Flower Tables and Stands, Shuts—Corsage made of Diamonds, &c.—Silver Ornamented Tea-kettle, by Lacarde—Case of Military Ornaments—Bronze Statuette of Prince William I. of Holland.

V. Belgium:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Statues: The Lion in Love—the Torments of Cain—the Death of the Stag, in Bronze, by Deboy—Godfrey de Bouillon—the Happy Child—a Child, in Marble—Psyche, Cupid, &c.—Wood Carving, by Geerts.

VI. Austria, No. 1:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Elaborately Carved Bedstead, and other Furniture—the Eau de Cologne Fountain.

VII. Austria, Sculpture, No. 2:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Maypole, a Marble Group, by Manfredini—Candelabrum, of Cast Iron—Radetzky, in Bronze—Mosaic Vases, by Oettl—Carved Frame, by Kolb—Veiled Vestal, David, &c. in Marble—Glass, by Hoffman.

VIII. Zollverein:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Amazon, by Kiss—Globe, in relief, by Kummer—Oxidized Silver Vase, by Albert Wagner—Statuettes, from the Royal Prussian Iron Foundry—Bas-relief, in Bronze, Cupid on Panther—Wood Carving, Bacchus—Shield, in Bas-relief, by Krause—German Organ, in Gallery.

IX. Octagonal Room:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Lion and Panther, in Zinc, by Devaranne & Son, Berlin—Bronze Groups, Children with Dogs—Marble Statue, Boy reclining, by Professor Drake—Ditto, Girl with Lamb, by Albert Wolff—Statuette, Amazon and Tiger—Painted Glass, by Wetzell & Kellner—Marble Statue, Magdalen, by Wagner—Porcelain Jar, by Kostulliche.

X. France, No. 1:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Ringuet Leprince, Tapestry—Lienard's Carved Clock-case, Cabinet, &c.—Truc's Porcelain Lamps—Duval & Co.'s Lamps—Crachet's Sculptures in Carton Pierre, &c.—Le Mire Père et Fils, Lyons Silks for Curtains—Album of the Society of Literary Men—Books in the Oriental Languages, from the National Printing Establishment of France—Moreau; Tissues for Hangings and Furniture—Flaissier's Carpets.

XI. France, No. 2:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Fourdinois' Prize Sideboard—Entrance to Sèvres Court—Bronze Busts, Negro and Negress, by Cordier—Barbedienne & Co.'s Bookcase and Bronzes—Gates of the Baptistry of Florence—Marble Statues, Hero and Leander, Algerine Products, and Eve and Children—Phryne (prize), by Pradier.

XII. France, No. 3:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—General View of the Sèvres Court—The Gobelin Tapestry—Bronzes—Cupid cutting off his Wings, by Bonnassieux—The beautiful collection of Vases and Paintings from Sèvres, &c.

XIII. France, No. 4:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Stalls of Lerolle, Frères; C. Rouge, C. Christofle & Cie., J. B. Marchand, M. Odiot—Church Chandelier, in the Gothic style—Case of Electro-plated Goods, by Elkington's process—A. Rudolphi (*Council Medal*), Silver Ornaments—A. Gueyton (*Council Medal*), Silver and Electro-plated Ornaments—E. Vittoz (*Council Medal*), Gilt and other Bronzes.

XIV. Spain and Portugal:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Tabernacle, for a Cathedral—Case of Spanish Arms, Toledo Sword, &c.—Shield of the Royal Arms of Spain, in Silk, Gold, and Silver—Baby Linen, made for the Prince of Austria—Barrels of Portuguese Snuff—Case of Embroidered Goods—Embroidery in Hair—Candelabra by Selami of Leghorn.

XV. Switzerland:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Model of Strasburg Cathedral—Collection of Fire-arms—Dutertrestechs & Bonnck, and P. Phillipe's Stalls of Jewellery, Clocks, &c.—Musical Boxes—Embroidery.

XVI. Italy:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Ornamental Carved Wood Frame—Marble Vase—Marble Statues, Bacchus Reclining—Psyche and Cupid—Rinaldo and Armida, Candelabra and Flower Stand—Tazza Vase—Jupiter Stator and Colonna Foca, of the Roman Forum—Landscape in Needlework—Vases, in Legno.

XVII. Sweden and Denmark:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Porphyry Vases—Specimen of Needlework, by Miss Almer—Orestis, a Statue, by Prof. Bissen—Woollen Goods—Stuffed Silver Bear Skin—The Shepherd's Boy, a Statue—Wielback's Compasses and Clock.

XVIII. Tunis, No. 1:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Arab Tent, with Lions' and Leopards' Skins stretched thereon—Domestic and Culinary Utensils—Bottles containing different sorts of Scented Waters—Jewish and Algerine Garments.

XIX. Tunis, No. 2:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Saido Belais, the Attendant on the Tunisian Department—Gerby Blankets—Arab Mantles and Shawls—Blankets of Tunisian Manufacture—Carved Door at the Entrance to the Chinese Department—Saddles, Embroidery, Dresses, Cushions, &c.—View of the South-eastern Side Avenue.

XX. Tunis, No. 3:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Major Edie's Curtain—Chinese Deities—Tunisian Carpet—Brazilian Products—Artificial Flowers, in Feathers—Case of Chinese Products—Hewitt's Collection—Statues, Zepher and Aurora; Virginius.

XXI. Turkey, No. 1:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Deers' Horns—Case of Coral and other Ornaments—Koulah Carpets and Rugs—Case containing Specimens of Dried Flowers from Mount Hebron—Assortment of Bottles of Scents and Seeds—Mangal or Brazier, for warming Apartments—Sledge from School of Arts, in Tassy—Embroidered Saddle.

XXII. Turkey, No. 2:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Cases of Embroidered Goods—Tables in Alabaster—Assortment of Antique Silver Cups and Saucers—Silver Coffee Urn—Turkish Tent—Ostrich Wing—Embroidered Saddles and Trappings.

XXIII. China:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Cabinet, Vases, Lamps, Tiles—Screens and various Ornaments.

XXIV. Greece:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Marble Bas-relief, from Parthenon—Carved Cross, in the old Byzantine Style—Palicar Dress—Embroidered Goods—Case of Saddles—Statues, Boy at the Stream; Hampden.

British and Colonial Subjects.

XXV. India, No. 1:—
View of the Indian Tent.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—Embroidered Elephant Trappings—State Punkahs—Carved Rosewood Furniture—Costume of an Indian Chief—King of Oude's Crown—Ivory Throne.

XXVI. India, No. 2:—
View from the Transept.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—Statue, Michael and Satan—Collection of the Arms of various Territories in India—Hunting Saddles, with Trappings—State Punkohs, or Fans—Jewellery Case.

XXVII. India, No. 3:—
View from the Transept.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—Jewel Case, containing the Koh-i-noor, or "Sea of Light," Diamond, &c.—State Umbrellas, &c.—Models of Ships, Netting, Fishing-tackle, &c.

XXVIII. India, No. 4:—
South Court.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—State Carriages—Royal Canopy—Trophy of Cotton and Silk Manufactures—Howdah, of Ivory—Stuffed Elephant, with Trappings—Embroidered Muslins, from Dacca.

XXIX. India, No. 5:—
North Court.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—Needlework Carpet Cover, from Lahore—Elephant Trappings—Bedstead, of solid Silver, and Canopy—Groups of Figures, illustrative of Indian Manners—Bed, from Cashmere.

XXX. India, No. 6:—
South Passage.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—Raw Materials, from various Parts of India, &c.—Ivory, Horns, Metallic Ores; and the rude Tools of the Natives.

XXXI. India, No. 7:—
North Passage.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—Complete Collection of the Pottery of India—Statue of the Queen, by a Native Artist—Silk Carpets—Dresses of Various Tribes—Fountain, Boy and Swan.

XXXII. West Indies, Colonies, &c.:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Case of Artificial Fruits and Flowers, by H. Elwell, Barbadoes—Pedestal and Crown in Shellwork, by Miss Nichols, Bahamas—Collection of Minerals, from South Australia—Articles made from the Leaves of the Palm Tree, from Mauritius—Figure-head, an Indian Chief, by J. [illegible], New Brunswick.

XXXIII. Guernsey and Jersey, Malta:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Original Designs for Statuary in Porcelain, by T. & R. Boote, of Burslem—Vase, curiously wrought and inlaid with Silver, from St. Heliers—Contributions from the Ionian Islands, Embroidery, &c.—Carvings in Stone, by [illegible] Dimech, F. Testa, J. Felec, and P. Decesare, of Valetta and Malta—Specimens of Pyrography, by Rev. W. Calvert—Prince of Wales's Cradle, by Rogers—Wood Carving, by Wallis.

XXXIV. Canada:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Indian Canoe, Sledges and Carriage—Sledge Harness—Perry & Brothers' Fire Engine—Case of Linen and Woollen Goods—Chairs presented by the Ladies of Montreal to Her Majesty the Queen.

XXXV. Mediæval Court:—
Mediæval Court.—OBJECTS PROMINENT—Hardman's Church Plate and Brass Work—Myer's Stone Tabernacle, Font, &c.—Minton, Ornamental Tiles, &c.—Cross, Furniture, Paper Decorations, &c.

XXXVI. Painted Glass in Gallery:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Stained Glass of all Nations.

XXXVII. Agriculture:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—The Stands of Messrs. Ransome & May; Barrett, Exall, and Andrews; Garrett & Son; Crosskill, Westlake, and others.

XXXVIII. Sheffield Hardware:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Stuart and Smith's Department—Leslie's Patent Gas Fittings—Hoole, Robson & Hoole's Stand—Robertson, Carr & Steel's Stand—Hitchcock Brothers and Turton & Son's Departments.

XXXIX. Hardware:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Wood Carving by Machinery, Jordan—Jennens & Bettridge's Papier Mâché Manufacture, Chairs, &c.—Pratt's Bronze—Fretham & Co.'s Stoves, Grates, &c.—Potts' Bronze—Ornamental Gas Fittings, Messenger, of Birmingham—Chandelier and Brass Castings.

XL. Furniture:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Loo Tables, Side Boards, &c., Snell & Co.—Ormolu Goods—Carved Oak Looking-glass, Wertheimer—Jackson & Graham's Department.

XLI. Woollen:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Revolving Lighthouse—Clay's Case of Woollens—Brett Brothers' Stall.

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OBJECTS PROMINENT—Seeley's Fountain—Plaster Group, Liberation of Caractacus—Jacquard Loom—Marshall's Goods—Holden—Irish Cambric, John Henning—Dunfermline Goods, Erskine Beveridge.

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XLIV. Moving Machinery:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Sketch taken from Whitworth's Stand of Machine Tools, for Planing, Slotting, Drilling, Boring, &c. and introducing Fairbairn's Corn-mill, Wrought-iron Crane—Garforth's Rivetting Machine—Johnson's [illegible]—Gardner's Spinning Machinery—[illegible] Machinery—Appold's Pump—Shank's High-pressure Steam [illegible] Press—Russell's Paper Mill—Arbroath Manufactures—Robinson & [illegible].

XLV. Machinery:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—The Great Hydraulic Press—Crampton's and other Locomotives—Nasmyth's Steam Hammer—Fox, Henderson & Co.'s and Stothard's Cranes—[illegible]—May's Turntables—Water Cranes, Screw Piles, &c.—Fire-engines, Pumps, Water-rams, &c., by Merryweather—Shalders, Easton and Amos, and Shand and Mason—Hodson's Railway-wheels and Carriages—Mording Sand Lighthouse—Electrical Dial, &c.

XLVI. Minerals.
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Minerals, as arranged by Thomas Sopwith, Esq.—Mr. Beaumont's Specimens of Silver—Duke of Buccleuch's Specimens of Ores, &c.—Arkansas' Mining Company, Lead Ore, &c.—Galena, from the Isle of Man, on the [illegible]—Imitation Marbles, by Hopkins—Inlaid Flooring, by [illegible] & Thomas—Model of Gothic Door, by Emery.

XLVII. Cotton, Carriages, &c.:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Flax at Liverpool—Case of [illegible] Muslin, &c., J. H. Young, Glasgow—Cotton Goods, D. & [illegible] Anderson, Glasgow—Gingham, Lotham & Parker, [illegible]—Hair Seating, Laycock & Sons—Dixon & Sons, ditto.

XLVIII. Exterior, Coals, &c.:—
OBJECTS PROMINENT—Slates from the various Quarries—Columns—Anchors—Masses of Stone—Geological specimens—Marochetti's Cœur de Lion—and the Steam Engine in distance.

XLIX. North Transept, Waiting for the Queen.—L. Closing Ceremony, October 15th.

Printed by James Holmes, of No. 4, New Ormond-street, in the county of Middlesex, printer, at his office No. 4, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, in the parish St. Andrew, in the said county; and published by John Francis, of No. 14, Wellington-street North, in the said county, Publisher, at No. 14 in Wellington-street aforesaid; and sold by all Booksellers and Newsvenders.—Agents for Scotland, Messrs. Bell & Bradfute, Edinburgh;—for Ireland, Mr. John Robertson, Dublin.—Saturday, November 1, 1851.

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Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1254. LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1851. PRICE FOURPENCE Stamped Edition, 5d.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1851.

REVIEWS

History of the War in Affghanistan. By J. W. Kaye. 2 vols. Bentley.

There have been abundance of narratives and memoirs drawn up in illustration of that disastrous and disgraceful episode in our Indian annals which extended from 1838 to 1841,—but to Mr. Kaye has been reserved the honour of writing its first complete history. We may add, that he has accomplished his task so well, and has had the advantage of sources of information so copious and authentic, that in all probability the book now before us will be the last separate work of consequence which will be written on the Affghan War. We ought to consider ourselves fortunate, that at so early a period after the conclusion of that great political and military enterprise we are put in possession of all the facts and circumstances which are of sufficient consequence to deserve remembrance;—that the origin and the failure of an indefensible war—a war which we are bound never to forget—has been described to us by a writer who at once embellishes and exhausts the subject. In hands less skilful than those of Mr. Kaye, we should have considerable misgivings as to the success of any extensive publication, at this time of day, wholly occupied with the discussion of Indian questions so entirely out of date as those connected with the politics of Central Asia twelve years ago. The topic is pretty nearly worn out. Englishmen of all ranks and persuasions have agreed to condemn as immoral and unwise the invasion of the Trans-Indus countries in 1838; and with very few exceptions, there is a general consent in regarding the issue of that invasion as one of the most signal instances of retribution to be found in the history of any people. We know, also, with whom originated the unhappy and excited notions which first suggested the movement of an English army against a nation which had never given us offence. No man of information has thought of blaming the East India Company for the Affghan War. It has been known well enough that behind and above the Directors of that Company there is a political department of the Government—a department to all practical purposes irresponsible—which was the real instigator and the real fomenter of that preposterous policy which will render Lord Auckland's Indian administration always conspicuous for everything that a firm and prudent statesman should avoid. We paid, however, the penalty of our infatuation. We sacrificed an entire army, and impoverished for a succession of years our whole Indian empire. But the lesson has not been lost. We shall not fall into the same error during the present generation. We may have other Indian wars, and annex other Indian provinces;—but we shall at least wait to be insulted or attacked before we become aggressors. These general results form of necessity the basis and the moral of Mr. Kaye's history; and the great merit of what he has done consists precisely in this,—that in his book, better and more clearly than in any other, we are enabled to trace from first to last the events, the errors, and the mischances which gradually produced the great catastrophe.

Mr. Kaye says that his history was undertaken because he found himself, by the influence of a variety of causes, in a position to consult and quote an almost perfect series of letters and papers connected with the whole Affghan question. Personally Mr. Kaye was not engaged in the active operations which he describes; but he was in India during the period over which they were spread,—and employed there as a military officer in the Company's establishment. Mr. Kaye describes himself, moreover, as "enjoying the confidence of some of the chief actors in the events to be narrated, or their surviving relatives and friends." These advantages and qualifications have been turned to good account. The volumes are not a mere antiquarian treatise on facts and dates, or filled with a procession of quotations from authorities drily introduced and discussed. Mr. Kaye has honestly, and successfully, endeavoured to fuse his materials into a narrative,—methodical, continuous, lively, and accurate:—and we observe with pleasure the assiduity with which every statement of moment is made to depend on authorities referred to at the foot of the page with clearness and precision. The style of the book is eminently clear and simple:—erring, perhaps, in several places on the score of diffuseness, but rarely disfigured by inflation or conceit. We must not omit to say, however, that the work is not free from a certain class of blemishes which in a writer of Mr. Kaye's obvious accuracy are curious. We find, for example, a frequent recurrence of loose and irregular phrases which have no legitimate title to be introduced into serious composition. To give an instance:—Mr. Kaye is very fond of talking about circumstances "welling up"; and "gingling the money bag" seems to be his equivalent expression for engaging to pay a sum of money in discharge of a claim or in support of a treaty. If these solecisms of language had been only a little more numerous they would have seriously interfered with Mr. Kaye's success;—standing, as they do, as exceptions to the general purity of an attractive style, they may be passed over as lapses of expression due to haste, and which have escaped subsequent correction.

We shall confine our quotations to those portions of the book which treat of the larger and more general questions;—for, we cannot but feel that the public interest in what may be called the controverted niceties of the subject has long since subsided. The following passage, relative to Lord Auckland and his advisers in the early months of 1838, will not fail to strike our readers as a graphic piece of writing.—

"Unfortunately, at this time, Lord Auckland was separated from his Council. He was on his way to that pleasant hill Sanitarium at Simlah, where our Governors-General, surrounded by irresponsible advisers, settle the destinies of empires without the aid of their legitimate fellow-counsellors, and which has been the cradle of more political insanity than any place within the limits of Hindostan. Just as Mahomed Shah was beginning to open his batteries upon Herat, and Captain Burnes was entering Caubul, Lord Auckland, taking with him three civilians, all men of ability and repute,—Mr. William Macnaghten, Mr. Henry Torrens, and Mr. John Colvin,—turned his back upon Calcutta. Mr. Macnaghten was at this time Chief Secretary to Government. He had originally entered the service of the East India Company in the year 1809, as a cadet of cavalry on the Madras establishment; and, whilst yet a boy, acquired considerable reputation by the extent of his acquirements as an Oriental linguist. Transferred in 1814 to the Bengal civil service, he landed at Calcutta as the bearer of the highest testimonials from the Government under which he had served; and soon justified by his distinguished scholarship in the college of Fort William the praises and recommendations of the authorities of Madras. It was publicly said of the young civilian by Lord Hastings, that 'there was not a language taught in the college in which he had not earned the highest distinctions which the government or the college could bestow.' On leaving college he was appointed an assistant in the office of the Register of the Sudder Dewany Adawlut, or High Court of Appeal; and in 1818 he quitted Calcutta to enter upon the practical duties of the magistracy; but after a few years was recalled to the Presidency and his old office, and in a little while was at the head of the department in which he had commenced his career. During a period of eight years and a half, Mr. Macnaghten continued to occupy the responsible post of Register of the Sudder Dewany Adawlut; and was only removed thence to accompany Lord William Bentinck, in the capacity of secretary, on the tour which that benevolent statesman was about to commence, at the close of 1830, through the Upper and Western Provinces of India. The objects of this journey were connected entirely with measures of internal reform; but having approached the territories of Runjeet Sing, the Governor General met the old Sikh chief at Roopur, and there Macnaghten, who had up to this time been almost wholly associated with affairs of domestic administration, graduated in foreign politics, and began to fathom the secrets of the Lahore Durbar. Returning early in 1833 to Calcutta, with his experience greatly enlarged, and his judgment matured by the opportunities afforded him on his journey, as well as by his intimate relationship with so enlightened and liberal a statesman as Lord William Bentinck, Macnaghten now took charge of the Secret and Political Department of the Government Secretariat, and remained in the office during the interregnum of Sir Charles Metcalfe, and the first year of Lord Auckland's administration, until summoned by the latter to accompany him on his tour to the North-western Provinces. Such, briefly narrated, were the antecedents of Macnaghten's official life. That he was one of the ablest and most assiduous of the many able and assiduous servants of the East India Company all men were ready to admit. With a profound knowledge of Oriental languages and Oriental customs, he combined an extensive acquaintance with all the practical details of government, and was scarcely more distinguished as an erudite scholar than as an expert secretary. In his colleague and assistant, Mr. Henry Torrens, there were some points of resemblance to Macnaghten; for the younger officer was also an accomplished linguist and a ready writer, but he was distinguished by a more mercurial temperament and more varied attainments. Perhaps there was not in all the presidencies of India a man,—certainly not so young a man,—with the lustre of so many accomplishments upon him. The facility with which he acquired every kind of information was scarcely more remarkable than the tenacity with which he retained it. With the languages of the East and West he was equally familiar. He had read books of all kinds and in all tongues; and the airy grace with which he could throw off a French canzonet was something as perfect of its kind as the military genius with which he could sketch out the plan of a campaign, or of the official pomp with which he could inflate a state paper. His gaiety and vivacity made him a welcome addition to the Governor-General's vice-regal court; and perhaps not the least of his recommendations as a travelling companion was, that he could amuse the ladies of Lord Auckland's family with as much felicity as he could assist the labours of that nobleman himself.—Mr. John Colvin was the private secretary of the Governor-General, and his confidential adviser. Of all the men about Lord Auckland he was believed to exercise the most direct influence over that statesman's mind. Less versatile than Torrens, and less gifted with the lighter accomplishments of literature and art, he possessed a stronger will and more powerful understanding. He was a man of much decision and resolution of character; not troubled with doubts and misgivings; and sometimes, perhaps hasty in his judgments. But there was something noble and generous in his ambition. He never forgot either the claims of his country or the reputation of his chief. And if he were vain, his vanity was of the higher, but not the less dangerous of its class, which seeks rather to mould the measures and establish the fame of others than to acquire distinction for self.—Such were the men who accompanied Lord Auckland to the Upper Provinces of India. About him also clustered the common, smaller staff, of military aids-de-camp; and not very far in the background were the two

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sisters of his Lordship—ladies of remarkable intelligence and varied accomplishments, who are supposed to have exercised an influence not wholly confined to the social amenities of the vice-regal camp. Lord Auckland was possessed of a clear judgment, and his integrity of purpose is undoubted; but he wanted decision of character—he too often mistrusted his own opinions and yielded his assent to those irresponsible advisers who single-minded and sagacious than himself. There was no want of capacity in Lord Auckland's camp. The men by whom he was surrounded were among the ablest and most accomplished in the country; but it was for the most part a dangerous kind of cleverness that they possessed; there was too much presumption in it. The secretaries, especially the two younger ones, were too ardent and impulsive—they were of too bold and ambitious a nature to be regarded as anything better than perilous and delusive guides. But Lord Auckland intrusted himself to their guidance. Perhaps he scarcely knew to what extent he was swayed by their counsels; but it is my deliberate conviction, that if he had not quitted Calcutta, or if he had been surrounded by older and more experienced advisers, he would have followed a line of policy more in accordance with the own feelings and opinions, and less destructive to the interests of the empire. But so surrounded, Lord Auckland journied by easy stages towards the cool mountain ranges of the Himalayah; and as he advanced there came to the vice-regal camp tidings, from time to time, of the progress or no progress of Mahomed Shah's army before Herat, and of Burnes's diplomatic movements at the Court of the Caubul Ameer. There was much in all this to perplex Lord Auckland. He was in all sincerity a man of peace. They who best knew his character and that of his chief secretary, predicted that if war could in any way be avoided, there would be no war. But from all quarters came disturbing hints and dangerous promptings; and to be true to his own moderate and cautious character, Mr. M'Neil had despatched Major Todd from Herat to the camp of the Governor-General; and had urgently advised Lord Auckland to adopt vigorous measures for the intimidation of Persia and the defence of Herat, which it was alleged, could not much longer resist the efforts of the invading force. Nothing short of the march of a British army upon Herat was thought by some sufficient to stem the tide of Russo-Persian invasion. The British Government, seeing everywhere signs of the restless aggressive spirit of Russia, and the evident tendency of all her movements towards the East, had written strong letters to the Governor-General, urging him to adopt vigorous measures of defence. His own immediate advisers were at hand to second the suggestions of both Mr. M'Neil and the British minister; and so Lord Auckland, though he hesitated to undertake a grand military expedition across the Indus, was persuaded to enter upon defensive measures of a dubious character, affecting the whole question of the sovereignty of the Dourannee Empire."

Mr. Kaye describes with clearness and vigour the nature of the first scheme of interference in Afghanistan, as partly embodied in the Tripartite Treaty of the 26th of June, 1838,—namely, the employment of a small British force as purely subsidiary to a larger native army which was to take the field in the interest and pay of Runjeet Singh. Gradually this limited measure of British intervention was given up; and it was determined by Lord Auckland and his secretaries—for let it ever be remembered that the Legislative Council was all the while at Calcutta, and in total ignorance of the proceedings at Simlah—to make war on a grand scale. Mr. Kaye refers to this fatal extension of the Auckland policy—or more properly of the policy of Sir John Hobhouse and the Ministry at home—in the following passage.—

"It is obvious that, in all the negotiations detailed in the preceding chapter, the paramount idea was that of an alliance between Runjeet Singh and Shah Soojah, guaranteed by the British Government, and a conjoint expedition into Afghanistan from the two sides of Peshawur and Shikarpoor, to be undertaken by the armies of the Lahore ruler and the Suddozye Prince. It was hinted to Runjeet Singh that events might be developed which would render necessary the more active co-operation of the British army; but Shah Soojah, who was desirous above all things that the British should not take the foremost part in the coming expedition, was led to believe that, assisted by a few British officers, he would be left to recover for himself his old dominions, and that he would by no means become a puppet in the hands of his Feringhee allies. But these moderate views were about now to be expanded into a political scheme of far wider scope and significance. While Macnaghten was negotiating the Tripartite Treaty at Lahore and Loodhianah, John Colvin and Henry Torrens remained at Simlah, as the scribes and counsellors of the Governor General. To what extent these bolder speculations wrought upon the plastic mind of Lord Auckland it is not easy, with due historical accuracy, to determine. But it is generally conjectured that the influences then set at work overcame the scruples of the cautious and peace-loving statesman, and induced him to sanction an enterprise of a magnitude commensurate with the bold and ambitious views of his irresponsible advisers. The direct influence ascribed to Colonel John Colvin. It is probable, indeed, that the counsels of a man so young and so erratic as Henry Torrens would have met with no acceptance from the sober-minded nobleman at the head of the Government, but for a circumstance which gave weight to his opinions and cogency to his advice. By all the accidents of birth and early associations, as well as by the bent of his own genius, the young civilian was a true soldier. The son of a distinguished officer and an Indian mother, he had graduated, whilst yet a boy, in the learning of the camp, and his after-studies had done much to perfect his acquaintance with the tactics and strategy of modern warfare. He possessed, indeed, the very knowledge which other members of the Simlah Council most wanted; and hence it was that he came to exercise considerable influence over Lord Auckland,—more particularly when his mother had directly brought to bear upon the mind of the Governor-General himself. It was urged that the expedition, if intrusted entirely to Shah Soojah and the Sikhs would end in disastrous failure; and there was, in the opinion of probability in this, Runjeet Singh was no more than luke-warm in the cause; and the Sikhs were detested in Afghanistan. Lord Auckland shrank from the responsibility of despatching a British army across the Indus; he warned of the danger of identifying himself with a slighter measure promising little certainty of success, he halted, for a time, between two opinions, and slowly yielded to the assaults of his scribes."

The book before us is not wholly occupied with political disquisitions. It contains several passages of great descriptive merit:—for some of which we may probably draw on its pages next week.

Punch's Pocket-Book for 1852. Illustrated by John Leech and John Tenniel. Punch Office. Were the abracadabrean phenomena generally come in the first-fruits of the New Year's literature, Books and broadsheets for the desk, office and library wall begin to crowd our table; and among the foremost of these we look for the visit of our ancient friend the laughter-loving philosopher of Fleet Street, with his pictorial and literary quips and cranks and wreathed smiles,—a pleasant guest at all seasons of the year, and most of all so when the long nights and morning fogs warn us to draw round the winter fire, and seek our enjoyments "in books and men's converse."

The coloured frontispiece this year is not, in our opinion, happy, either in subject or in treatment; but some of the minor illustrations are full of farcical point and drollery. Take as examples, 'Le Lord Maire as he goes through the Pool (incog.), and is thankful that he is an Englishman,—' Mr. Lothbury's Night-mare,' —and 'A Wife for Sale.' The literature is, as usual in this annual, various,—but the sero-sarcastic is perhaps somewhat in excess of the other ingredients. In the burlesque vein we have a parody on M. Alexandre Dumas—"humbly dedicated" to that dramatist as "the author of *Kean*"—entitled, 'A Wife to be Sold.' The absurd ideas of English life and manners, still common property to play-wrights beyond the Channel, are very pleasantly quizzed in this sketch:—from which the following is a scene, that will suggest the rest.—

Scene.—The Police Court at the Mansion-House. To Lean

MAYOR *on his Throne. Men in steel and brass crowns on either side of the throne—all certain.*

Lord Mayor. Who waits for justice? Who, at the throne of Gog Magog, invokes the paternal benevolence of London's Mayor?

Mary Bitters (entering). I do!

Tom Bitters (following her). And I!

Bill Rowsebotent (following him). And I!

Mrs. Atkins (bringing up the rear). And I!

All (with one voice). We all was.

Clerk. Silence before his Majesty the Mayor!

[" *God save the Queen! A blast then pleasant upon a chamber-organ, all present kneeling. On conclusion, the Mayor in a remarkable fine voice.*

Lord Mayor. Now, speak; and still respectful of the British Constitution, speak only one at a time. Who's the complainant?

All. All!

Tom Bitters. No! may it please your reverent Highness, that am I. In the first place, I'm this woman's husband—

Mrs. Atkins (aside). Woman, indeed! Why does he call a woman?

Clerk. Silence in the Court!

Tom Bitters. I'm a Chartist. I established that every Big Bluman's garret is his Tillery Fort. Mayra Charter agreed that I'm a Chartist yet, if tyranny don't drive me to it—I don't purpose to shoot at all Jaunies. Besides which, the liberty of the press is like the air we breathe, specially the air in our court. The Bill of Rights secures every husband the monarchy of his own dreside; and yet, in defiance of the sacred principles of *Habeas corpus*, I find that cruelest Bluphiens do reve and rage in my poor heart-sheet. Then, my Lord! God bless the Queen—Britannia Rules the Waves and the Beasts Rule Ireland and England!

Lord Mayor. Restrain your feelings. You know what rules this peaceful, happy hand!

Tom Bitters (with a groan; and with a proud look. The staff of the policeman!

Lord Mayor. Potent and beauteous piece of wood! Wood sweeter than the cedars of Solomon—more precious than the ivory sceptre of Indian kings—wood that stops and quells the roaring mutinous waves as Neptune's trident rebukes and hushes the foaming billows! Wood sweeter than the lucciferous of every Briton brown, and—but, perhaps, I'm discursive—proceed with the case. The charge?

Tom Bitters. Assault! He, that coalheaver in the human form, struck me to the earth. For further particulars, look in his right eye.

Lord Mayor. The case is black indeed.

Clerk (laughing loudly; in excellent joke! Ha! ha! ha!

Lord Mayor. Be *Rowsedotent.* You struck the complainant?

Rowsedotent. My lord, I did. But he would have used his wife!

All the Court. Ha!

Rowsedotent. And jest a thousand treadmills prind me, but so long as I can wield this from right hands, and so long as a woman's to darkness, so long is it man's first business to fly to her rescue!"

[*Applause in Court, immediately suppressed by the bits in Armour.*

Lord Mayor (to Mary). You are complainant's wife? Then speak, and say, have the cause defendant in complainant's cupboard?

Tom Bitters (with fierce sarcasm). Aye, my lord; on that too this shoe especial pinches; let her answer that.

Mary. I am innocent, for—he is my husband!

Rowsedotent. He is, my lord. I can't deny it; the worst my luck. You see, my lord, I toved that fair young body; I brought to me her by my bitter-bole, next my heart for life; I loved her, when the spoiler came—

Lord Mayor (sternly). Prisoner, I fail for your position. Justice is blind. Therefore, explain the case.

Rowsedotent (dashing the tear from his eye). Some of the parrots blackbird there's ruined place where was the nest where was her little ones—but my lord, it's no use losing time on that. Suffice it, I plead guilty to the fact; round the bomb; so this is it. I plead guilty to the fact; round the bomb; I struck the young creture, and very proudly I knocked him down.

Lord Mayor (sipping on the black cup). Prisoner, in conformity with our Saxon institutions, blows are purchasable. There are blows, price five pounds—one pounds—one pound—twenty shillings. Taking your affections into consideration—for love is fault of the immortal gods!—you will pay twenty shillings.

Rowsedotent. Not twenty farthings have I in the world.

Lord Mayor. Then, in punishment of your poverty, twenty days in gaol. Oakum and silence!

Mary. William!

Rowsedotent. Mary!

Lord Mayor (taking off the black cap). The solemn duty of the judge performed, common humanity may have its way. Husband, and wife, and lover,—listen.

* *Mr. Punch* hates plagiarism. He therefore, with the deepest respect for the author of this neat little drama, must warn the reader that this profound and touching sentiment is a violent theft from one of the good old comedies of eighty years ago, when the drama was in its "palmy state." No such writing now!

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Bitters.
Mary. } We will—we do.
Roundabout.

Lord Mayor. On the ancient Champ-de-Smith—corrupted into Smithfield—blows and flourishes like the daisy, this time-honoured custom. The wedded knot may be unloosed, if, with halter round her neck, the wife is sold by husband to another lord. Have I said enough?

Bitters.
Mary. } You have; and bless you ever.
Roundabout.

Lord Mayor (resuming his dignity). The case, then, is decided; remove the prisoner out of court'

[*Men in Armour place themselves on each side of* ROUNDABOUT, *who throws a look of hope on* MARY; *who returns the same.* BITTERS *surveys them stoically.* MRS. MARY ATKINS *clasps her hands in thankfulness; and scene closes.*

From 'Logic for Ladies,' a paper in another mood, we borrow a few illustrations.—

"I am walking in Regent Street, and I see a shawl in a window. I see a lady on a gentleman's arm; she pauses, and gently drawing him to the door, induces him to enter. I reason from this induction that he will purchase it. * *

"There is another kind of mental operation, which is peculiarly the property of the female logicians, and who would call it reasoning by inference. The following will illustrate our meaning. Suppose I am going to the Opera, and my wife asserts that the distance by an omnibus or by a fly is the same. This is, at the first glance, true enough; and if she continues by observing that 'things equal to each other, come exactly to the same,' I cannot contradict her. How, then, can I resist her reasoning, when she comes to the conclusion, that whether we go by a fly, or by an omnibus, can make no difference whatever?

"Contingent reasoning is a separate branch of the science of Logic, and requires a few words of illustration. I go into the kitchen, and find a horse-guard in my cupboard. I have seen a horse-guard in my cupboard on a previous occasion, and I recollect he was the cousin to my former cook. Am I not justified in reasoning contingently, that all cooks have cousins in the horse-guards?

"Let us now examine the process of forming a general inference from a collective fact. It is universally admitted that all dripping is saleable: from which I get the collective fact that my dripping is saleable, and the general inference will be, that if I put confidence in my cook, I am sold.

"Another instance of reasoning from inference may be thus stated. My wife puts my check-book on the table, and I at once draw the inference that I shall have to draw a check.

"Some logicians have held that drawing an inference is actually reasoning; but when called on to draw a check, it is no use to attempt to reason at all. * *

"There is a kind of demonstrative inference, which would be extremely useful if it could be relied upon; but unfortunately, though it seems very good logic, it is good for nothing else. For example—I once paid my butcher, therefore my butcher is paid! Now, this sounds exceedingly well; but if I were to try it on my butcher, as an argument for sending him away without his money, the experiment would fail. The mode of reasoning is, nevertheless, often tried with success by a wife on a husband, when she says to him: 'I once started for the Continent in the autumn. It is the autumn, and therefore I start for the Continent.' * *

"Some logicians have held, that what is true of the whole, must be true of a part; but this proposition is absurd, for though it may be true of my wife's millinery bills, that I cannot pay the whole of them, it is not true that I cannot pay a part of them, for I may be at this moment ready with an offer of fourpence in the pound.

"Condillac has declared that there can be no reason or logic without words; but the logic practised by ladies is often much more convincing when words can be avoided; and, indeed, they have the art of persuading far more effectually with their eyes than with their tongues."

A few epigrams thrown together under the heading 'Thoughtful Hours, by a Fast Man,' have something of the real sting in them:—as our readers shall judge.—

"Husband and wife should run together on an equality: it is dangerous for either to take the lead. The most difficult driving is that of a tandem! * *

"Be not too ready to pronounce that, what you think a bad youth, will necessarily become a bad man. Yonder sturdy oak may have grown from an acorn that had been rejected by a hog! * *

"How often we hear the harsh expression—'a good-natured fool!'—as if the milk of human kindness was always adulterated—like our common milk in London—with calves' brains!

"For a heavy fellow to try poetry, is like a hodman marching up Jacob's ladder loaded with bricks.

"Your gentlemen, who are mad about ancient descent, should adopt the rag-shop's announcement —'The best price given for old bones.'

"A white ash is the sign of a good cigar—as a fair memory of a good life.

"Many young military men are merely ornaments —like 'arms' put on 'spoons.'"

It will be seen from these specimens, that under his cap and bells our old Christmas favourite retains in his green old age something of the fancy and wisdom which have long given him welcome at so many firesides.

Khartoum, and the Blue and White Niles. By George Melly. 2 vols. Colburn.

THESE volumes are as unaffected as they are pleasant:—containing more pictures and conveying more information than many a Nile-book of greater pretension. They are said to contain a simple re-arrangement of the contents of a journal kept without idea of publication. Mr. Melly obviously travelled in a humour both to enjoy and to observe; being one of a family party to whom no means and appliance of luxury were wanting. Their Oriental journey was darkened by the sudden death of its leader. Before, however, this calamity occurred, they had penetrated as far as Khartoum at the junction of the Blue and White Niles;—where never English woman had been before. The portion of Mr. Melly's journals devoted to this remote city is accordingly the freshest in interest, and from it we shall principally draw our extracts.—

"On the 26th of December [1850], the ninth day from Gebel Berkel, the fourteenth from Dongola, and the thirtieth from Wady Halfah, at five o'clock in the evening, we suddenly came down a hill in sight of the object of our journey. On a boundless plain below lay the junction of the two Niles; next we observed the white government house and the minarets of Khartoum; and then the broad White Nile stretched as far as one could see, looking like an immense lake, as it merged into the horizon. * * It looked like the end of the world almost, as we gazed on the two rivers, sulkily flowing side by side, and would not fraternize as they rolled along. Lastly, appeared the boundless deserts beyond the town, making it look like a bulwark against barbarism and an outpost of civilization. An hour afterwards we pitched our tents on a green-sward, between some tall trees, opposite the junction of the Blue and White Niles, on the banks of the latter. * * The next morning we went on board a crazy boat, and impelled by a strong north wind, soon crossed to the confluence of the two rivers. The White Nile is not whiter than the Blue Nile is blue, yet there is a difference of colour, and the former has the strongest current and twice the breadth of the other. For three-quarters of a mile, the two rivers can be distinctly traced running side by side. We sailed up, or rather down, the Blue Nile, as near Khartoum it takes a considerable bend. About three miles from the point of junction is the town; in the intermediate space are two villages—in one the people are employed in ship-building. Khartoum, seen from the river, is a long mud wall, with several houses just peering above it, among which, most conspicuous, is the residence of the Governor, with its offices, the old Government House, and the Catholic Chapel and Mission. We proceeded to the Governor's offices, through a large open ground, in which two companies of troops, the best dressed and accoutred of any I have seen since I left Europe, were changing guard, each company led by a soldier with a bedstead [!] on his bayonet. He being the officer, and the only one allowed such a luxury, the rest always sleeping on the ground. We next arrived at a court, in which were several brass pieces, then entered a large room fitted up with Turkish divans and European chairs. This was 'the Divan.' At one end sat Latiffe Pacha, General in the Army, Admiral of the Fleet, and Governor of the Soudan, from Philæ to the furthest possessions of the Pacha of Egypt. He looks like a man capable of being all this and more, as he possesses a fine figure, a good face, set off with a remarkably fair complexion, and a beautifully trimmed moustache and beard as black as jet. These advantages were assisted by the handsomest Asiatic dress I have seen—a suit of dark blue cloth, richly embroidered, red and gold tunic waistcoat, and full sleeves of pink silk and gold, silk stockings, a magnificent scarf round his waist, tarboosh, diamond star, and several gold chains. On his right hand sat Ali Bey Hassib, the Governor of Berber, and a few other grandees sat near him, in full costume."

The Governor of the Soudan treated the English party as though they had been angel visitors.—They asked him to allot them a space on which to pitch their tents,—he presented them "with a capital house most pleasantly situated among oranges, bananas, and pomegranates, in a garden on a high bank of the river next door to the Pacha's hareems."—He placed his own boat at their disposal; also a stud of thirty camels to meet them at Berber.—He volunteered to despatch a dromedary post with their letters to Assouan.—"A somewhat awful personage clothed in red jacket and boots, and bearing many pistols," was appointed to open them a free passage through the crowds that thronged the bazaar.—All the nobility, gentry, and clergy of Khartoum were of one accord. Sundry European visitors called.—

"Scarcely had they departed when we received a large basket of figs, bananas, pomegranates, and cream-fruit—the last most delicious to the taste, as might be expected from its name. With it came the following letter:

"'My Lord,—I hope you will accept a little fruits from the garden of your servants, minister of the Catholic Church, or rather from your garden in this cyty.—Your servants, EMMANUEL PEDEMONTE.'"

"'Khartoum, December 28th.'"

Then, Ali Bey Hassib, the Governor of Berber, sent for our traveller; civilly offering to accompany the party to Berber, and to show them everything worth seeing on the road,—placing his house, camels, &c., at their disposal. Rumour, it turned out, had heralded their arrival with more than usual pomp and pretension.—

"Among other veracious statements, it was affirmed that a gentleman, with his hareem, was known to be on the road, who was a Pasha with three tails; that he was adorned with three diamond stars on each breast and neck, and prodigious gold epaulettes on each shoulder."

In short, the reception of the English family appears to have been a thorough case of "enthusiasm," as the American journalists would describe it.—

"The inhabitants [of Khartoum, continues Mr. Melly in a subsequent page] are thirty thousand in number, including the military—they are divided into Mahometans, Christians, and Jews; the former are an immense majority of the population, and worship in their mosques—they are particularly unenlightened, and their priests are not much better. The latter number about fifty. They comprise the entire community attached to the Roman Catholic missions, possess three priests, have a chapel for the performance of religious worship, as well as a school for the preparation of converts, and the instruction of the rising generation of their co-religionists. The Jews are about a dozen. The members of the three religions live together very amicably. * * Much activity prevails in the neighbourhood in boat-building; the vessels constructed being chiefly long, open boats for navigating the Nile. They are usually built of palm-wood, but are very clumsy contrivances. The

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principal portion of their trade consists in the produce of their gardens and fields, which are extremely productive. The bazaars consist of four covered and four uncovered streets; the former are the finest shops, and are filled with articles of merchandise of very various character, among which figure Manchester prints, Sheffield knives and scissors on cards, and Staffordshire potteries: the uncovered streets are mostly booths, in which are sold senna, lichens, and various herbs and grasses. The merchants here export gum-arabic, galls, senna, castor-oil, and large quantities of ivory on camels to Kerosko, after conveying them down the Nile to Berber."

The English ladies passed their time not unprofitably in woman's dearest occupation (as Mrs. Ellis will bear us out in asserting),—to wit, "paying morning calls."—

"My mother and sister called on Madame Latiffe Pacha, who received them very handsomely in her new residence adjoining our garden. She is lady-like and pretty; and was becomingly dressed in a tight Greek jacket, covered with gold-lace, and full blue silk trowsers. She showed them over her house, which is the only well-built one in the country, gave them coffee in the usual gold filigree cups, which shared their admiration with the embroidered napkins, table-covers, and velvet work, that had been executed by herself. She did not appear to be very young—about twenty—was tall, and remarkably playful."

"We were constantly employed," adds Mr. Melly in the next page,

"in receiving and paying visits. Every one called to pay his parting compliments, and we could not be outdone in such civility. Sometimes we had little remembrances, and sometimes gave them—one trifle in this way created a sensation throughout the entire civilized community. The apothecary gave us two chairs, and we returned the gift with forty potatoes; the fame of this vegetable quickly brought us more applicants than we could supply."

The visit to Berber affords many agreeable pictures. The following long anecdote, whether founded on fact or in fancy, might be not inopportunely printed by way of note to Mr. Milnes's dulcet versified recommendation of the true joys of the hareem.—

"While at the Governor's divan we heard some extraordinary stories of our obliging friend, Latiffe Pacha. * * When his Excellency left Cairo, he took with him a young Greek lady of respectable parents, who had been his wife's intimate friend and companion, and was neither a slave nor in any way related to him. He was also accompanied by a young man whom he had adopted, and who went by the name of Ibreem Latiffe. While passing through Berber, he took a fancy to one of Ali Bey Hassib's wives, whom he asked for, and as that gentleman had at the time a larger stock than he wanted, he at once offered to spare one for his friend. He carried her off to Khartoum, where he had been only a few weeks, when he married his adopted son to the fair Greek, with more than usual ceremony; and all parties, as is the custom of the country, lived very comfortably in the same hareem. About two months ago, two of the attendants of the hareem came to him with a long story about his Greek daughter-in-law and a purveyor in the army, whom they had seen together in the garden of the hareem. The instant he heard it, Latiffe Pacha ordered in six of his Janissaries and the male delinquent. The latter he charged with the offence, and without listening to his assertions of innocence, condemned him to be shot. At first the Janissaries refused to sacrifice the officer, but the Pacha, mad with rage, insisted on his immediate execution, and one of the men shot him in the neck. He fell wounded and was then thrown into the Nile. Latiffe, accompanied by this Janissary, now hurried into the garden of the hareem, and sent for the Greek lady, who was actually at that moment with her husband. The instant she came she was shot, and her body cast into the river. After this summary justice, his excellency appeared satisfied, but was evidentally not quite at his ease. His appetite fell off, and he could not sleep. He now thought, for the first time, of making some inquiries respecting the affair, and consulted a Turk at Khartoum, who was eminent for his sagacity. On hearing the whole of the case, the Turk assured him that he not only had been too hasty in forming his judgment, from the only testimony of the guilt of the parties that had been submitted to him, but that the lady, being neither his wife nor his slave, he had no right to take her life. The Pacha became extremely dissatisfied with himself, particularly when further inquiry assured him of the untrustworthiness of the accusers of his unfortunate victims. He recompensed the five Janissaries who had refused to execute his sanguinary commands: the other suddenly disappeared, and was never more heard of. But the husband—the reader will naturally ask—what became of the poor young man? how could he ever get over such a blow to his happiness as this atrocious murder of his lovely bride? It is supposed that he got over it with the usual indifference to emotion of a Turk, for very shortly afterwards he received another wife, and not a word was said about the poor Greek. The fact was officially notified to Ali Bey Hassib, so there seems no reason for doubting the story."

There was a mesmeric exhibition at Berber, which appears to have puzzled our tourist to the point of leaving him undecided whether to describe it in jest or in earnest. We have glimpses of other strange and Eastern things:—and shortly after this point of the narrative is reached comes a notice of the sudden calamity referred to—the death in the little caravan.

"Like Abraham, in similar circumstances, we sent to the chiefs of the village to request a place in their cemetery: expressing their sympathy with our sorrow, they immediately desired us to take our choice, and then guided us to the spot, which was about two miles from the river. It was indeed a dreary walk; the sky was dark, the wind blew the fine sand in clouds around us, and we could only see a few yards in advance. After selecting the ground, the inhabitants of the village prepared the tomb, and were found assembled near it in crowds of all ages, when we again approached to lay the loved form in the deep grave they had dug. After reading the funeral-service, according to our English customs, we distributed alms, out of respect to Arab custom. With these people, charity is not confined to the moment of interment; but for months, and even years after, on Friday (the Mahometan Sabbath), the relations of the deceased attend at the grave to keep it in repair, and give food and money to the poor, who go there as the surest place to obtain assistance; and it is for the purpose of sheltering such persons, that the small mosques and buildings often found in such localities, are erected. The cemeteries are always respected—indeed, are held as sacred among these wild, untutored people as among ourselves; so much so are they in public opinion, that when setting out on a journey, the Nubians frequently deposit near them their valuables. The place is not inclosed, and we often beheld in the cemeteries a collection of household goods, pitchers, &c., suspended from a tree, or laid near a grave, the vicinity of which was a sufficient protection during the absence of the owner. During our five days' detention here, the guides had behaved very well, paying daily visits, and making kind inquiries at our tent; but now the second guide refused to proceed without his brother, whose return was not expected in less than seven days, and even threatened to take us back to Berber, alleging, as his reason, that his engagement no longer held good. Our servants expressed their indignation at his conduct in such unequivocal terms, that his resolution, if he ever entertained it, began to waver, and it presently became evident that he had changed his mind altogether. We showed a determined indifference to his opinion; the camels were collected and brought into the encampment before dark; the packages were prepared, the burthens adjusted, and when, at sunrise, everything was ready for a start, he, without further demur, placed himself at the head of the caravan. Slowly and sadly we climbed the steep bank, and wound our way through the thicket of doum palms which, a short time since, we had entered with feelings so very different. We made a circuit to behold once more the burying-ground. How desolate it looked in the grey of the morning, with its neat graves, with their dark head-stones and mounds, neat and sprinkled over with snow-white, quartz pebbles. Before us lay a flat plain, over which a few stunted mimosas were scattered, and here and there we observed that the sand was shaded grey and white by the *débris* of the quartz rocks, which in several places rose to a great height, in grotesque shapes, resembling ruins; one even was named to us as a temple. In the distance were two purple hills, standing by themselves, so unlike in colour to anything else in the landscape, that they did not seem to belong to it. * * Nothing could exceed the considerate attention of our own Arab servants; to have lost a traveller, whilst under their care, was a great blow to them, and it was the first time they had been visited by such a misfortune. The dragoman especially took the most tender care of all of us; sometimes on the march dropping behind out of hearing of our conversation, sometimes striving to counsel, often endeavouring to amuse. He told me stories illustrative of Arab manners and traditions, and kept guard at night over our tent and water; in short, he did everything that could in any way promote the comfort of his charge."

It is satisfactory to add, that the care and courtesy of the Eastern attendants of the English family in affliction seem not to have slackened till the end of the sad journey.

Enough, we think, has been said to recommend this book, and the tone and the temper of its writer. We gather from Mr. Melly's journals that he is young. Remembering how severely we have suffered when abroad from the thoughtless freaks and "sporting propensities" of the English boy which bring the English man into discredit,—we are glad to call attention to such an evidence as this book affords, that the young may carry forth with them good feeling and good sense as well as animal spirits, and exhibit that power to think, to compare and to act, which ought to distinguish our countrymen, whatever be their age,—if the reputation of England abroad and at home is to be sustained as a reality, and not as an empty and idle tradition.

Memoirs and Adventures of Sir John Hepburn. By James Grant. Blackwood & Sons.

The Thirty Years' War has not fared well in literature. One of the finest subjects for an historical pen—including the topics of war, philosophy, and European policy, and illustrated by many famous names—has been left comparatively undiscussed. Schiller's work is a feeble performance;—the subject was not one that suited the poet's idealizing mind. There have been some good biographies of some of the leading heroes in various languages:—but we do not know of any consecutive history of that famous time fit to be compared with Robertson's 'Charles the Fifth' or Napier's 'Peninsular War.'

The volume before us contains little matter that can be called original. It is the biography of Sir John Hepburn,—one of that class of Scottish soldiers of fortune immortalized in the fictitious person of *Dugald Dalgetty*. Mr. Grant, in the usual biographic spirit, greatly exaggerates the importance of his hero. One might suppose from his eulogies that Hepburn was a Scottish worthy fit to be ranked with the long line of heroes from the Montroses down to the Moores and Abercrombies. We cannot see, after reading Mr. Grant's case made on his behalf, that Sir John Hepburn has a special claim to a particular biography. No great historical incident is emphatically associated with his memory,—and he does not come under the list of generals or that of statesmen. Mr. Grant has raked up from various quarters a great deal of matter to illustrate the adventures of the Scottish followers of Gustavus Adolphus; but he seems to have composed his work as fast as he got his facts, for it is put together in a patchwork style,—not artistically disposed. It has the literary merit, however, of putting a great

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deal of matter into a small space, though it does not give any important historical conclusions, nor read with graphic and picturesque effect. Subjects nearer home, and presenting actualities that Mr. Grant could more easily realize than the battle-fields of the seventeenth century, would suit his pen better.

Neither do we place much confidence in Mr. Grant as an historical authority. We were somewhat amused by finding him interpose a page from De Foe's 'Memoirs of a Cavalier,'—calling it "*that somewhat apocryphal* work." Further on (p. 98), Mr. Grant thus delivers his critical *dictum* on De Foe's historical novel. "In this remarkable work (which, though erroneous in many parts, Harte, in his Life of Gustavus, considers veritable) everything is related with an air of candour and truth which is very perplexing, and almost impossible to mistake for genuine. Now it is generally ascribed to Defoe." Why, then, does Mr. Grant call it elsewhere "that somewhat apocryphal work"? Another sign of Mr. Grant's weakness as an historical authority is, his constant reliance on Harte's 'Gustavus Adolphus.' That writer is one of the worst biographers in the language.

The class to which Sir John Hepburn belonged has been sufficiently painted in the 'Memoirs of a Cavalier' and, as we have said, in the 'Legend of Montrose.' He was a Scottish adventurer, who acted in the manner of a kindred spirit,—

> Why then the world's mine oyster,
> Which I with sword will open.

Though a Roman Catholic, he used his sword in the service of Gustavus Adolphus, "the bulwark of the Protestant cause;"—and on quarrelling with that hero, he passed into the service of the Imperialists. A soldier of fortune, and a brave one,—a valiant *sabreur*, with a spice of Scottish chivalry—such was Hepburn. The character, as our military annals attest, has been no uncommon one. If Hepburn had written his own memoirs and adventures, they might have been interesting; but narrated in the historical form, they are tame enough. Here and there we get a few glimpses of stirring scenes, that make us wish for a De Foe to record them. Here is one of these:—

"Commanded by the Counts Schomberg and Montecuculi, Teiffenbach and Herbertstein, the Imperialists (those ferocious bands which had so cruelly ravaged all Brandenburg and Pomerania) were all under arms to the number of ten thousand men, and the whole line of embattled wall that girt the city was bright with the glitter of their helmets; while pike-heads, the burnished barrels of muskets, and sword-blades, were seen incessantly flashing in the sunshine, when for a moment the smoke of the cannon and firearms was blown aside. Relying on their native bravery, the defence of the *weakest* point was assigned to a regiment of Irish musketeers, led by Walter Butler, a gallant cavalier of the noble house of Ormond. In the evening, Hepburn and other officers accompanied the King, who approached somewhat too near the town to reconnoitre, for a party sallied forth and fired on them. Lieutenant Munro, of Munro's regiment, was shot in the leg, below his cuisses; and Maximilian Teuffel, baron of Ginersdorf and colonel of the Life Guards, was wounded in the arm. Gustavus, says Munro, made 'a great moane for him, alleaging he had no help then but of Hepburne,' a body of whose musketeers, led by his major, John Sinclair, repelled the sally, driving in the Imperialists under cover of their cannon; and, after capturing a lieutenant-colonel and captain, made a lodgment on high ground, where, covered by the grey head-stones and grassy wall of an old churchyard, they could securely enfilade and sweep the enemy's works in flank. Immediately on this being effected, Gustavus called Captain Gunter of Hepburn's regiment. 'Put on a light corslet,' said he, 'draw your sword, (officers generally carried a half-pike,) take a serjeant and twelve other good fellows with you; wade through the graff, ascend to the top of yonder wall, and see if men can be commodiously lodged between the outer rampart of the town and the inner stone wall.' While twelve pieces of heavy cannon opened a fire upon the Guben gate, the twelve Scottish soldiers performed this dangerous service, and their captain returned with a favourable report, escaping the shower of bullets that greeted his approach; so, everything being prepared, at five o'clock on the afternoon of Palm Sunday, the 3rd April, the King ordered a general assault. Previous to this, Hepburn and other brave cavaliers expressed a wish to throw aside their armour, which was somewhat cumbersome, the suits worn by mounted officers being nearly complete. 'Nay,' said Gustavus; 'he that loves my service will not hazard his life out of pure gaiety. If my officers are killed, who then shall command my soldiers?' Ordering all to retain their armour, to have their fascines and scaling-ladders prepared, and, when the gun-batteries fired a grand salvo against the walls, to advance to a general assault, under cover of the smoke, he called to both Sir John Hepburn and Sir James Lumsden of Invergellie by name, and added—'Now, my valiant Scots, remember your brave countrymen who were slain at New Brandenburg!' A trumpet sounded. The whole Swedish artillery poured a general salvo upon the enemy's works, while from every point of their approaches the musketeers poured volley after volley—for platoon-firing was one of the supposed improvements of the age; and while the Imperial cannon, muskets, pistolettes, and arquebuses-à-croc vomited a cloud of fire and dense white smoke, with bullets of every size—lead, iron, and brass—from the walls, parapets, and palisadoes, from casemate and cavalier, the brave Scottish Brigade with the green banners rushed on with levelled pikes to storm the Guben gate. Sir John Hepburn and Colonel Lumsden, side by side, led them on. They both bore lighted petards, to burst open the gates. These military engines are of gun-metal, and hold about twenty pounds of powder, the vent of which is secured by a thick piece of plank, which is hung to the gate by an iron hook. Hepburn and Lumsden resolutely advanced, hung their petards, and retired a pace or two: the engines burst, and blew the strong barrier to a thousand fragments. And now the bullets poured through the gap thick as a hailstorm; for, charged to the muzzle, two pieces of Austrian cannon swept the approach, and made tremendous havoc among the dense ranks of the Scots Brigade, forming absolute lanes through them. While Munro's regiment crossed the wet ditch, among mud and water which came up to their gorgets, and, boldly planting their ladders, clambered over the sloping bastions, under a murderous fire, storming the palisades at point of sword and push of pike, Gustavus, with the blue and yellow Swedish brigades, all officered by Scottish cavaliers, fell sword in hand upon that quarter which was defended by the gallant Butler with his Irishmen, who made a noble and resolute defence, fighting nearly to the last man around him. The Green Scots Brigade still pressed desperately to gain the strong Guben gate, 'the valorous Hepburne leading on the pikes, and, being advanced within a half-pike's length of the door, was shot above the knee that he was lame of *before*.' Finding himself struck—'Bully Munro,' he cried jocularly' to his old friend and fellow-student, whose soldiers had so gallantly carried the outer palisades—'bully Munro, I am shot!' A major advancing to take his place was shot dead, and, with the blood streaming from their wounds, the soldiers were falling fast on every side, till even 'the stubborn pikemen' wavered for a moment; upon which Lumsden and Munro, each at the head of his own regiment, having their helmets closed, and half pike in their hands, cheered on their men, and shoulder to shoulder, led the way. 'My hearts!' exclaimed Lumsden, brandishing his weapon—'my brave hearts, let's enter!'—'Forward!' cried Munro: 'advance pikes!' and the gate was stormed in a twinkling, the Austrians driven back, their own cannon turned on them, and fired point blank, blowing their heads and limbs into the air. Munro, in his narrative, says that by this time excess of pain, and his sight becoming faint, had compelled Hepburn to retire; but another account tells us distinctly that he and Lumsden entered the town together, slaying the Austrians on every hand; and that to every cry of—'Quarter! quarter!' their soldiers replied—'New Brandenburg! Remember New Brandenburg!' One Scottish pikeman slew eighteen Imperialists with his own hand; and Lumsden's regiment alone captured *nine pair* of colours, which so pleased Gustavus that he told this brave cavalier of Fife to ask whatever he wished that a king could bestow, and he should have it. Led by Major Sinclair, the fifty of Hepburn's musketeers who were in the churchyard now forced their way into a street of the town, where they were suddenly charged by a regiment of cuirassiers; but, retiring a few paces, they drew up with their backs to a wall, and by a brisk fire compelled the horse to retreat. Hepburn's brigade pressed on from the Guben gate through one street, which was densely filled with Imperial troops, who contested every foot of the way, while General Sir John Banier scoured another with his brigade. Twice the Imperialists beat a parley; but amid the roar of the musketry, the boom of the cannon from bastion and battery, with the uproar, shouts, and yells in every contested street and house, the beat of the drum was unheard. Still the combat continued, the carnage went on; and still the Scots Brigade advanced in close column of regiments, shoulder to shoulder, like moving castles, the long pikes levelled in front, while the rear ranks of musketeers volleyed in security from behind. The veteran Imperialists, 'hunger and cold beatten souldiers,' met them almost foot to foot and hand to hand, with a bravery which, however indomitable, fell far short of the gallant Irish who fought under the same banner. The stern aspect of Tilly's soldiers excited even the admiration of their conquerors; for their armour was rusted red with winter storms, and dinted with sword-cuts and musket-balls; their faces seamed with scars, and bronzed by constant exposure in every kind of weather; but they were forced to give way, and a frightful slaughter ensued. The savage Dutch also too well remembered New Brandenburg, and butchered all who fell into their hands. At last Walter Butler, on being shot in the arm, and pierced by a halbert, fell; the remnant of his Irishmen gave way, and then resistance ceased on every side. Schomberg, Montecuculi, Teiffenbach, and Herbertstein mounted, and, with a few cuirassiers, fled by a bridge towards Glogau, leaving four colonels, thirty-six junior officers, and three thousand soldiers dead in the streets—fifty colours, and ten baggage-waggons laden with plate; and so precipitate was their retreat that their caissons blocked up the passage to the bridge,—while cannon, tumbrils, chests of powder and ball, piles of dead and dying soldiers, with their ghastly and distorted visages, and battered coats of mail, covered with blood and dust, smoke, mud, and the falling masonry of the ruined houses, made up a medley of horrors, and formed a barricade that obstructed the immediate pursuit of the foe."

It would have been a better plan for Mr. Grant to have enlarged his work, and made it Memoirs of the Scottish Officers who served in the Thirty Years' War. He quotes works showing that the best names of Scotland are to be found in Sweden:—Leslies, Gordons, Montgomeries, Duffs, Hamiltons, &c. &c. Several of the Swedish nobility are of Scottish descent;—but, on the other hand, how many Scotch families were originally sprung from the Northmen?

Mr. Grant has capacity for collecting historical matter; and in his future publications he should choose a subject that repays research and is somewhat novel in its materials. He would do well, also, to make a final choice between composing works of history or works of fiction. A novelist does not make a good historian,—and *vice versâ*, an investigator and compiler rarely makes a good novelist. In fiction, the writer must aim constantly at effect, and work by invention,—in history, he must achieve his object by narration of facts laboriously collected, and judicially investigated. Hence there is an opposite exercise of the mental faculties. A man who might do well in either pursuit would not succeed in both. The poetry of Lamartine has been found to give too much colour to his histories. In the same way, his-

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tory in the hands of Sir Walter Scott was too anecdotical, and too full of mere individualities. Smollett's historical performances were written with a party prejudice, enhanced by the fanciful workings of a novelist's intellect. Numerous cases might be quoted to prove our position.—We should state, in conclusion, that this volume is remarkably well printed,—in a very neat style of typography, highly creditable to the Edinburgh press.

GREAT EXHIBITION.

Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue.

(Second Notice.)

We wandered, a few days since, with an especial object, through the western nave of the Crystal Palace—shorn now of its industrial glories,—and turned into the Machinery Department, where a few weeks previously we had, amidst the din of driving wheels and flying shuttles, studied with much interest the numerous examples of the mechanical skill of this country.

How widely different was now the scene! Few of the beautiful machines which then appeared to possess an automatic power, labouring ever diligently in producing articles for the use of society, remained perfect. The mighty agency at whose bidding the whole was impelled was dead. The fires in the boiler-house were extinguished,—the boilers were cold,—and all was ruin. Member had been separated from member,—joints were torn apart,—screws were loosened,—and piles of dead iron alone remained to indicate some beautiful combination which, when we examined it at a former visit, appeared to mimic life. The vast hall was not silent; but the noise was that of hammers, which, with now and then the sound of falling metal, told that the process of dismantling was rapidly going forward. Appold's cascade no longer illustrated the wondrous power of a centre-flying force. A group of eager Italians were around it, carefully studying every section, as the pump was in the act of being taken to pieces,—anxious to comprehend its mysteries. These men are about to transport the machine to some of their own marshes,—having become its purchasers. On referring to the Catalogue we find that the vessel or disc containing the curved vanes holds but a gallon of water; but this was discharged 1,400 times in a minute by the centrifugal force generated by the rapidly revolving fans. In this machine was illustrated one of the most important laws of motion, and the application of it to an important end. There were other machines of a similar description; and the same principle was applied to the purposes of ventilation,—although we are not aware that it has been found as effective as some other methods which have been for many years employed in our collieries. We could have wished that some good drawings of this centrifugal pump had been inserted in the Catalogue,—together with a careful description of its arrangements. The mechanical drawings which are given are of very considerable value, and most of them are executed with great care,—forming a most important section. We do not intend to imply that the wood-cut and other illustrations of machinery are sufficiently detailed to satisfy the engineer or the mechanist;—but they communicate enough of the principles involved to enable either to judge of the merits of the construction, and they are excellent records of the machinery of the Exhibition to those who desire a popular account.

Those who directed with any attention their investigations to the numerous very beautiful contrivances which were exhibited in the Machinery Department will find the Catalogue, with its important descriptions contributed by the exhibitors and with the notes of the annotators, of the utmost service in aiding them duly to appreciate the nature of the several inventions. As a striking example of this, we have but to refer to the drawings and descriptions of the great hydraulic press employed in raising the Britannia Tubular Bridge,—the various weaving machines,—the very perfect tools by Messrs. Whitworth & Co.,—the apparatus connected with railway operations,—and many of the engineering and building contrivances. All these are represented with strict fidelity.

Our space will not allow of our examining each Section in detail; since wherever we open we find subjects of greater or less interest to fix attention.—We must pass over that Section of the Catalogue which relates to Naval Architecture and Military Engineering:—under which head are also arranged guns and weapons,—including numerous very fine examples of sword manufacture, rifles and guns.

Agricultural and Horticultural Machines and Implements form a very fully illustrated and well-described Section of the Catalogue. The editor justly remarks, that in no other country of late years has agriculture been rendered so largely an object of experiment as in the United Kingdom,—and in none other do the requisite amount of capital and the supply of means for such experiments, proportionately to the area of the soil occupied, exist. The mechanical division of the soil has of late excited a very large share of attention; and in connexion with draining operations, the results are shown in the number of machines and implements which have been exhibited,—and which are well illustrated in these pages.

Class X. of the Exhibition formed a very important, and somewhat varied, group,—or rather set of groups:—clocks and watches in great variety—globes and orreries—optical instruments, as telescopes and microscopes—numerous philosophical appliances, as barometers, thermometers, electrical machines, and magnets—electric telegraph and electrical clocks—photographs—much chemical apparatus—a large display of musical instruments—and not a few for surgical purposes. On all these points the Catalogue furnishes much information. It is not a little curious to examine the articles thus brought together. We have Shepherd's electrical clock, involving some of the nicest points of science,—and Brook's self-registering magnetometer, in which a pencil of light is made to trace out—indeed to point—every movement of a magnet under the influence of the changes in terrestrial magnetism,—almost immediately associated with Count Dunin's steel man—or as it is called, mechanical figure. This is a rare example of patience and ingenuity. Upwards of 7,000 nicely adjusted pieces of steel are made to slide one upon the other,—so that the figure can be enlarged or diminished in size. The advantage offered by this piece of ingenuity is, "to facilitate the exact fitting of garments, more especially in cases where great numbers are to be provided for, as in the equipment of an army, or providing clothing for a distant colony."—Again, we find immediately associated with the present group the "Tempest Prognosticator,"—in which advantage is taken of the circumstance that leeches do during the period of electrical developement climb out of the water to the top of the vessel in which they may be confined;—and not far from this the really valuable Typhodeictor of Col. Lloyd, by which the mariner is enabled to determine with precision the position of his ship relatively to the centre of a storm. Adopting the carefully deduced law of Col. Sir William Reid, it is easy with this little apparatus, not only to avoid a storm, but to make it subservient in many cases to the ship's ultimate course.

The descriptions furnished by the various exhibitors of electrical telegraphs are very full,—and the illustrations, as usual, are good. By carefully reading the pages devoted to this subject, the varieties of telegraphs will be understood; and—as they are all here brought together and described by the instructors themselves—more perfectly than by reading any detached explanations of these very important instruments. The daguerreotypes and calotypes, and the apparatus employed in producing these pictures—of which a large variety was exhibited—are carefully catalogued and described. We have seldom met with so large an amount of valuable information on the application of science to the useful purposes of man—and on the appliances which have been devised for extending the sphere of human knowledge—as is found in this division of these important volumes.

We may apply a similar remark to the Catalogue of the Musical Instruments. This brings the first volume to a close; and we are bound to declare our conviction that it will be found to afford an unusual amount of information on all the points connected with the Classes of which it treats,—information which could not have been brought together under any other circumstances than those which have attended this Exhibition.

The Second Volume embraces all the varieties of Textile Manufacture:—and on the subjects of cotton, flax and woollen weaving, calico printing and dyeing, we find much novel information. We could have desired a larger number of plates of the designs ornamenting the woven and printed goods,—as they would have furnished a record of the present state of the art of design in this country, and we should have had the satisfaction of marking the progress of improvement. A considerable advance has been made since the establishment of the Schools of Design; but from the circumstance that the young men who are educated in those schools have no knowledge imparted to them of the peculiar character of the particular material to which the design is to be adapted—or of the difficulties that beset its manufacture—there is not that harmony which should exist between the design and the material and its uses. There is yet much to be done for the education of our artizans.

The Classes devoted to Woven Materials do not require any particular notice from us:—but passing from these to the Catalogue of Skins and Furs, Class XVI., we have been much instructed by the information given on the furs exhibited. The beautiful case of furs in the western main avenue will be well remembered. The Catalogue gives a complete account of all these varieties of fur;—particularizing those which are employed in this and those used in other countries—the quantities of each imported—and the amounts which are exported again.

The extensive and intelligible Class of General Hardware comprehends 810 exhibitors;—and many of these were on a most extensive scale. In this class we were enabled to trace the progress of metal manufacture from the crude metal up to the most elaborate work of Art. We had at the foot of the scale the pig of iron,—and at its top the ornamental castings of the Coalbrook Dale and other works. We had also the cake and sheet of copper,—and every stage of conversion until it became an article of use or of ornament. The specimens of hammered copper exhibited by Messrs. Tyler & Son were remarkable examples of the skill of the British workman:—the plain sheet of copper being hammered into a tall vase of the most beautiful

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form. Many examples of hammered brass and of brass tubing were equally curious illustrations of metal manufacture. The ornamental castings adorning the stoves and other work show a very marked advance; but much of the ornamentation was inappropriate,—and often it was considerably overladen. Many very ingenious gas stoves were exhibited. The particularities of all these are fully recorded in the Catalogue. The notes appended to the more important examples of hardware exhibited are of a thoroughly practical, and many of them of a most curious and instructive, character,—particularly those which relate to the staple manufactures of Birmingham.

The works in the Precious Metals and Jewellery were among the most attractive points of the Exhibition. The history of the gems which were exhibited, commencing with the Koh-i-noor and ending with the emeralds in the matrix and the turquoises from Arabia Petrea in all their modes of occurrence, would be instructive. Much of the desired information is furnished by the work under notice,—but much more might be written on the subject. There is, however, in the Catalogue a very interesting account of the Koh-i-noor:—which was according to Hindú legend the property of Karna, king of Angu, who was slain about 5,000 years since, or 3,000 years before Christ. To attempt a description of the works in gold or in silver would be vain in such space as we can spare. Many of the best designs are illustrated in this Catalogue.

Glass and Porcelain formed important Classes in the Exhibition,—and will be found to be the subjects of interesting sections in the Catalogue. All the processes of the manufacture of crown, plate and flint glass are fully given. The same may be said of the section devoted to the Ceramic Art: from common earthenware up to the most delicate porcelain and the finest application of the so-called Parian and statuary porcelain which is now so pleasingly employed for multiplying the finest works of Art. The Furniture and Papier Mâché exhibited very fully realized the remarks of the Editor, who says:—"The appearance of the entire class bespeaks a high degree of national prosperity; and, while displaying the skill and taste of the manufacturer, indicates not less distinctly the wealth and domestic refinement of those for whose use the greater majority of the articles exhibited are unquestionably intended."—The manufactures in mineral substances were in like manner highly illustrative of the increasing refinement which marks the advance of wealth. In this section of the Catalogue the annotations are particularly directed to descriptions of the localities producing the various ornamental and building stones, and to their geological character.—A series of miscellaneous matters are comprehended in the Class which we have not named, in many of which will be discovered much novel information.—The section of Fine Arts concludes the catalogue of our home productions:—and this is very fully illustrated.

The latter portion of the second volume is devoted to the British Colonies and Dependencies. On this division of the Catalogue we have already sufficiently remarked. The third volume is devoted entirely to Foreign States:—and to us as a manufacturing nation this volume is even more important than the other two. It furnishes the merchant and manufacturer with a copious Trades Directory to all the great producers of the old and new continents. It gives intelligence in connexion with the exhibition of peculiar manufactures—of the natural history, the locality, and the amount produced—of substances employed,—such as we could not by any other means obtain. This is particularly the case with the Austrian Section of the Catalogue. The notes are most extensive,—and convey information of the greatest importance on every variety of articles exhibited within the section of the Exhibition building devoted to that extensive Empire.—As an example of this we select at random the following information on the production of silk in Austria.—

"Of all the states of Europe, the Austrian monarchy possesses the most abundant supply of silk. The production of silk is conducted on the most important scale in the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom. Next in order of importance comes the Tyrol. The same business is also carried on in the military frontier, Görz and Gradisca, and also in Istria and Trieste, in Dalmatia and the south of Hungary. Trials have likewise been made in Lower Austria, Bohemia, and Carniola. The production of cocoons amounts, on an average, annually—

In Lombardy . .	to 250,000 cwt.
The Province of Venice	200,000 "
The Tyrol . .	25,000 "
The other provinces .	12,000 "
Total . .	490,000 cwt.

Or, in round numbers, 500,000 cwt. The cocoons are prepared at the reeling establishments into raw silk. From the result of inquiries it would appear that Lombardy comprises 3,068 reeling establishments, which employ 75,500 workpeople, without taking into calculation the smaller establishments, which are not included in this enumeration. The entire production amounts to 2,512,000 Vienna lb.; and, since 12 lb. of cocoons yield 1 lb. of raw silk, there are required for this aggregate of raw silk 306,400 cwt. of cocoons. The quantity of cocoons required is not equal to the quantity produced, an excess of very nearly 50,000 cwt. is covered by the production of the Venetian provinces, chiefly by that of Verona. Within the province of Venice the reeling establishments are pretty numerous, but of less extent. The nearest approximation to the truth in reference to this matter is obtained by taking the extent of the production at one-half of that in Lombardy. The remainder of the cocoons produced in the province undergo further preparation in Lombardy, and partly in the Tyrol also, whilst a portion of those obtained in Görz and Gradisca, as well as in Istria, are prepared in Venetian reeling establishments. The number and the performances of the reeling machines in the Tyrol are accurately known. In the year 1848, South Tyrol contained 559 of such reeling establishments. These employed 13,000 hands, and turned out 265,700 lb. of raw silk, from 31,860 Vienna cwt. of cocoons. The supply of cocoons required, beyond that furnished by the production of the country, was drawn from the Venetian provinces. The reeling establishments in the remaining provinces produce, conjointly, from 10,000 cwt. of cocoons, 75,000 Vienna lb. of raw silk. The whole production of raw silk obtained in the Austrian monarchy is about 4,146,200 lb., and the waste about 716,400 lb. The number of working hands employed in the reeling establishments is not less than 160,000 (or if their term of occupation be reduced to 270 days in the year, 50,000 only). Besides the products already enumerated, about 900 cwt. of cocoons are annually imported into Lombardy, principally from Switzerland and the neighbouring Italian States, and are prepared in the Lombard reeling establishments. The quantity of silk produced is thus increased to an aggregate of 4,146,200 lb."

The information afforded in connexion with the typography and printing contributed to the Exhibition from the Imperial Court and Government Printing Office at Vienna is of the most important character,—and will furnish very valuable information to all interested in the literary statistics of the Continent.

The industry of the commercial group of the Zollverein German States designated as the Zollverein was strikingly shown in the extent and variety of manufactures which were exhibited. There was scarcely a branch of human industry which was not here fully represented. The contributions from the smaller States were also numerous:—and to all these the Catalogue furnishes a comprehensive guide.

Holland and Belgium were contributors of all the varieties of Mineral and Vegetable produce of those countries,—and of the greater number of their manufactures.

It has been remarked that the French exhibition furnished an exemplification of the effects of Exhibitions of industrial products on the nature and quality of the articles produced. A survey of the departments in which were arranged with the most picturesque effect the French bronzes, works in the precious metals, jewellery, porcelain, and tapestry fully confirms this remark. The Catalogue enumerates varieties of industry which are peculiar and characteristic as showing the kind of industry that is called into existence by the habits of a people. The French section of the Catalogue is a very extensive one:—the descriptions are numerous, and the illustrations copious.—Switzerland, the Papal States, Tuscany, Sardinia, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Norway and Denmark, were respectively contributors of objects of much interest.—Russia made a magnificent display of her Mineral wealth, and also of her industrial products. The annotations in the Catalogue on the Russian contributions—particularly those connected with the Raw Produce—are full of important information:—and the illustrations of the works of Art and Art-manufacture are numerous.

Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Tunis, and China were among the attractive points of the Exhibition; and though nearly all their productions have now disappeared, the Catalogue furnishes a permanent record of that interesting gathering. The contributions from Egypt have been munificently placed entire at the disposal of the Royal Commission, with a view to their preservation in some industrial museum.

The last Section of the Catalogue is devoted to the industrial productions of the United States of America. The American reaping machine has excited much and deserved attention;—and although the Glass contributions came late to the Exhibition, the remarkable freedom from colour of this material speedily drew attention to its excellent quality. It is manufactured from a sand entirely free of any colouring matter:—and is really a most important improvement in the character of flint glass. The forms of the American glass could not be admired, nor the workmanship praised:—the quality of colour—or rather its absence—was, however, sufficient to insure attention. We must refer to the Catalogue for descriptions of the various articles sent from our brethren of the United States:—showing a country rich in natural resources of which its inhabitants are rapidly learning to avail themselves.

Such is an analytical view of the 'Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue,' compiled and arranged, as we have said, amidst a complication of difficulties which greatly enhance the merit—though not the value—of the work. The descriptions furnished by the exhibitors were in nearly all cases, of necessity, to be altered before publication; and it was for some time, even after the opening of the Exhibition, difficult to fix the Class and Number to which many of the exhibitors belonged. Things were falsely named,—there was much grammatical confusion,—scientific terms were seldom correctly applied,—technical terms were frequently such as could not be understood—and these were often wrongly translated from the foreign returns made to the Editor. Amidst these and a thousand other difficulties Mr. Robert Ellis has steadily pursued his work:—and it cannot be denied that he has brought it to an issue for which he deserves all praise.

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We do not mean to say that the work could not havo been better done:—if the labour had to be again gone through, there is no doubt that many improvements might be effected. But under all the circumstances of the time and the occasion, we regard the Catalogue as worthy of the great phenomenon which it records. A work of permanent value and enduring interest has been produced:—and to all parties concerned it must be satisfaclory to know that the labour which has been bestowed on it has not been in vain. To the philosopher, the manufacturer and the merchant, we repeat, this Catalogue must, for ever, prove an invaluable work of reference.

A Naturalist's Sojourn in Jamaica. By Philip Henry Gosse. Longman & Co.

How much of the Natural History of the World still remains to be written! Here we have a gentleman residing only a few months in a small district of a tropical island,—and producing an octavo volume with abundance of new facts about new animals, and not a few about old ones. We have no sympathy with those naturalists of the old school who think that because Mr. Gray is unable to add more than one new species of stuffed mammal to the collection of the British Museum in the year, the study of Natural History is coming to an end. There are yet unexplored districts of the earth's surface where new mammalia may be found. Even if these higher creatures should be exhausted, there are birds, reptiles and fishes to be described in abundance. But those who study natural history no longer confine themselves to the larger forms of the animal world:—amongst the molluscous articulate and radiate tribes of the Invertebrata they find as yet an inexhaustible supply of new forms. So with the vegetable kingdom. Where the naked eye ceases to be of service, the microscope unfolds a new world of animal and vegetable life to repeat and represent the first.

But forms alone are nnt the object of the studies of the naturalist. Nature moves as well as exists. The complex mass of organs which constitute an animal or a plant has an object in creation. Each plant and each animal has a relation at every stage of its growth to every other. All their functions and relations indicate order and harmony. Hence, the work of the naturalist can never be said to be completed until all the varied forms of the external world shall be understood in their intimate nature, objects and relations as component parts of a magnificent and beauteous whole. All who work earnestly and sincerely, whether in the description of new forms, the observation of habits, or the arrangement of the general relations of one living being to another, are contributing to this great end. Those departments of natural history, however, will always be most popularly interesting which give the results of general observations on either plants or animals, describing their forms and habits amidst the other objects in nature by which they are surrounded. Such a work is this by Mr. Gosse:—already well known to English readers by his 'Canadian Naturalist,' his 'Sketches of Birds in Jamaica,' and other works.

From Mr. Gosse's volume we learn incidentally that other pursuits than natural history led him to Jamaica:—but he seems to have lost no opportunity of acquainting himself with natural objects,—and whilst crossing the ocean his voyage was fruitful of interesting results. No sooner does the vessel touch the shore, than wo find him scampering for miles along a sandy beach to delight his eye with here and there a new form of animal or of plant. Arrived in Jamaica, he speedily settles down:—and seems to have carried on the work of a naturalist with great vigour.

In these pages we follow him from day to day amidst the beautiful scenery and new world of animal and vegetable life that Jamaica presents to the European eye. Everything which he sees and hears differs from what we are accustomed to in this country; and keenly alive to the peculiarities of all around him, he imparts the same interest to his reader. Mr. Gosse is not like some natural history writers who have an eye only for their own peculiar hobbies. He takes a long walk for the purpose of examining a fly or a fish; but the beauties of the walk itself interest him,—and numerous are the sketches of life and scenery in Jamaica which he thus gives us. Take the following account of a negro village as an example.—

"One cannot look on a little negro hamlet without being struck with its extreme picturesqueness. The peasants who commonly labour on the same estate usually have their huts congregated together, not by the side of a high road, but retired into some secluded nook, approachable through a narrow winding path. You might pass within a stone's throw of the village, and hardly be aware of its existence, except by the hogs which scamper away on the sight of a stranger into the bush, or the poultry that strut and pick about the vicinity. This love of seclusion is almost invariable, and is no doubt a habit inherited from 'slavery-time,' when it was an object to keep the domestic economy as much out of the way of Buckra as possible. If you purposely seek the collection of cabins, you will probably have some difficulty in threading the maze of Pinguins into which the original fence has spread. This plant (*Bromelia pinguin*) is very commonly cultivated as a fence, being absolutely impenetrable; when not in flower or fruit it can hardly be distinguished from the Pine-apple, but is more vigorous and formidable, the recurved spines with which the edges of the long leaves are set being exceedingly sharp, and inflicting terrible scratches. When flowering in March it is a beautiful object; the central leaves being of the most brilliant glossy vermilion, and the thick spike of blossom of a delicate pink-white. This is replaced by a dense head of hard woody capsules, not united into a compound succulent fruit as in the Pine-apple, but separate, though closely packed. They contain an acid juice, which is pleasant to moisten the lips or tongue, but is found to be acrid and caustic if used in any quantity. The picturesque beauty of which I have spoken as characterizing tho peasants' hamlets does not depend on the habitations themselves; these are small huts, generally made of wattle, or hurdle-work, and thatched with the fronds of some of the Palms. But it is in the variety and grandeur of the various trees in which they are embowered. It so happens that the tropical trees most valued for their fruit are also eminently conspicuous for beauty. The Papaw, whose large fruit has the singular property of rendering tender the toughest meat with a few drops of its juice, and the Cocoa-nut which supplies meat and drink, are fine examples of tall and slender grace. The glossy evergreens of all the Citron tribe, from the great Shaddock to the little Lime,—how beautifully it throws out into relief the noble golden fruit, or serves as a ground for the delicately white blossoms, studding the dark trees like stars on a winter night's sky, as fragrant too as lovely! The Star-apple, with its party-coloured leaves, shining green on one surface, and on the other a bright golden bay, has an indescribable effect, as its mass of foliage, all quivering and dancing in the breeze, changes momentarily in a thousand points from the one hue to the other. But there are two other trees which help more than all the rest to produce the admired result. Both are of stately form and noble dimensions. The one is the Mango, which, though introduced at no very distant period, now grows almost everywhere, at least around every homestead, gentle or simple. It forms a towering, compact, conical head of foliage peculiarly dense and dark, through which no ray of the sun penetrates. He who has once seen the Mango growing in its own ample dimensions, will never mistake it for another tree, nor ever forget the impression produced by its magnificent form and massive proportions. The other is the Bread-fruit; like the Mango, a foreigner made to feel himself at home. The negroes cultivate it more than the higher classes: I was myself disappointed in tho fruit; it has a sort of woolliness not agreeable; but I bear willing testimony to the fine appearance presented by it when hanging by scores from the thick many-jointed twigs. The enormous leaves, eighteen inches in length and breadth, elegantly cut into fingers, and of a beautiful green, well set off the large depending fruit, and seem to suit its colossal dimensions. These are tho grander features of the scene, which, mingled with other trees, form groves of many tinted foliage, and much variety of light and shadow. The under growth, however, is no less pleasing. The lively tender green of the Plantains and Bananas planted in regular avenues, the light tracery of the Yams, the Cho-chos, the Melons and Gourds, the numerous sorts of Peas, and other climbers, among which several species of Passion-flower throw their elegant foliage, magnificent blossoms, and grateful acid fruits over the branches of the trees,—the delicate forms of the Castor-oil tree and the Cassavas; the noble flower of the esculent Hibiscus or Okra—these are the ordinary, almost I might say universal, features of a Jamaican negro-garden; and when I add to these fine Convolvuli and Ipomaea of rainbow hues, the pride of our conservatories, and large white and yellow species of Echites, that, altogether unsought, trail in wild luxuriance about the fences,—I shall be justified in pronouncing the scene one of more than common loveliness, even in the grandeur and beauty of a tropical land."

Such descriptions will make many a reader almost long for a voyage to Jamaica; but our naturalist lets us into some of the secrets of domestic life which must be considered as drawbacks on a sojourn in that island. In dry weather troops of ants walk into the traveller's bed-room, to quench their thirst in his water-jug and hand-basin. Bats domicile in the walls of his house. "Lizards, lizards," says Mr. Gosse, are everywhere:—in the forests, the roads, the lanes, the outbuildings. Even when the stranger walks into the dwelling-house, the lizard still meets his eye. They are quite harmless, and very interesting:—still, not choice companions, especially in bed. Musquitoes, too, must be regarded as very disagreeable companions,—not easy to be avoided.—

"These troublesome insects seem nearly equally annoying throughout the New World. I do not think them at all worse in Jamaica, than in Canada or Newfoundland, perhaps not so bad. In marshy places, even in England, the punctures of these minute tormentors (for Musquitoes are merely Gnats) are as painful, and perhaps as numerous, as in many parts of Jamaica. Some situations are of course more subject to their presence than others. Blue-fields, situated on a rising ground, open and exposed to the invigorating sea-breeze, enjoys a remarkable immunity from them. The humid forest harbours them, especially in the mountains; and in many cases the roads are almost quite free from them, where if you step into the wood on either side though only a few paces, you would presently be surrounded by their shrill trumpets, and covered with their bites. There is a good deal of difference in the character of the wounds inflicted by different species: those that frequent the lowlands (*Culex pungens*, for example) are of larger size, sing with a graver sound, and insert the proboscis often without any present pain, but a hard white tumour presently rises on the spot as large as a silver threepence, which itches intolerably, and remains attended with dull pain and tension, for many hours. The mountain Musquitoes are generally very much smaller, *C. fasciatus*, for instance, a minute species; they are more pertinacious, associate in more numerous swarms, emit a sharp shrill hum, and produce a sudden twinge as they pierce the flesh, as if a spark of fire had fallen on it. A violent itching is the immediate result, but it soon goes off, leaves scarcely any perceptible tumour, and is soon forgotten. These, however, are more intolerable than the former, the recurrence of the spark-like

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prick at every momen, or rather all over the exposed parts of the person at the same moment, is too maddening to be endued; and it is almost impossible to face a phalanx of these tiny adversaries, where they are numerous, without some device for keeping them off. A fragment of the earthy nest of the Duck-ants (*Termites*) answers well for this purpose; being ignited, it continues to smoulder a considerable time, sending forth a large volume of smoke; this carried in the hand, and waved to and fro, is the most effective weapon against these winged warriors."

Mr. Richard Hill, a friend of Mr. Gosse, has contributed largely to this volume,—giving a great amount of interesting matter on various natural history topics. He seems to have studied the habits of the crocodile with greater attention than any other writer that we know of. From his own observations, he shows that Mr. Waterton is wrong in supposing that the crocodile swallows its food as soon as caught,—and maintains that the notion of its allowing it to putrify first is correct. It is well known that the crocodile is easily diverted in its course by the bark of the dog, which is employed for this purpose by those who have to cross rivers in which these animals dwell. It has been supposed that the crocodile seeks the dog for love of its flesh; but Mr. Hill gives the following more probable account of the phenomenon.—

"After burying the eggs in the soil, to be there matured by the sun, the female visits from time to time the place in which they are secreted, and, just as the period of hatching is completed, exhibits her eagerness for her offspring in the anxiety with which she comes and goes, walks around the nest of her hopes, scratches the fractured shell, and by *sounds which resemble the bark of a dog*, excites the half-extricated young to struggle forth into life. When she has beheld, with this sort of joy, fear, and anxiety, the last of her offspring quit its broken casement, she leads them forth into the plashy pools, away from the river, and among the thick underwood, to avoid the predatory visits of the father. In this season of care and of watchfulness over them, she is ferocious, daring, and morose, guarding with inquietude her young wherever they wander. She turns when they turn, and by whining and grunting, shows a particular solicitude to keep them in such pools only as are much too shallow for the resort of the full-grown reptile. When I was in Yasica, a river district of that name, as many as forty had been discovered in one of these secret resorts; but in half an hour, when the boys who had found them out returned to visit their hiding-place, they saw only the traces of the coming and going of the watchful parent who had led them away to some further and safer retreat. In this period of their helplessness, the mother feeds them with her masticated food, disgorging it out to them as the dog does to its pups. In general it is rarely seen otherwise than crouching with its belly to the earth, and crawling with a curvilinear motion; but at this time it may be observed firmly standing on its feet. This is the attitude of anger and attack; and its spring is quick, a sort of agile leap, by no means short in distance. During all this time of protection and dependence, is heard the voice, by which the young makes its wants known, and the parent assures its offspring of its superintendence. It is the *yelping bark of the dog*, and *the whining of the puppy*. From all these facts I take it that when the sound of the dog's bark is heard, the Caymans press to the spot from which it issues, agitated by two several passions,—the *females to protect their young, and the males to devour them;* and to this, and not to their predilection for the flesh of dogs, are we to ascribe the eagerness with which they scud away, agitated by that voice which in the one case is the *thrilling cry of danger*, and in the other, the *exciting announcement of food*."

We should state, in addition, that the work is neatly got up,—and contains several sketches of Jamaican scenery, as well as drawings of reptiles, fishes, and beasts of a novel kind, from the pencil of Mr. Gosse.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Observations on Baths and Washhouses: with an Account of their History, an Abstract of the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, their Applicability and Advantages to Provincial Towns, and a Description of those proposed to be erected at Maidstone, under the superintendence of the Authors. By Arthur Ashpitel and John Whichcard. A very brief summary—much too brief to merit its swelling title—of the causes which first suggested the establishment of baths and washhouses, and of the success which has hitherto attended the new institution. The chief object of the authors seems to be,—to make known their own private labours at Maidstone; but their little book contains facts and drawings which may nevertheless be useful at a distance.

The Wisdom and Beneficence of the Almighty as displayed in the Sense of Vision. By J. Wharton Jones.—This treatise obtained the Actonian prize of one hundred guineas for the present year,—and resembles in style of treatment the famous Bridgewater Treatises, especially Sir Charles Bell's volume on the 'Evidence of Design displayed in the Hand.' The book is entirely beyond the category of ordinary prize essays; but the nature of its origin is so far against it, that we doubt if it will be read as much as it deserves.

A Literal Translation of the Revelation of St. John, and an English Version of the same, as also of the Gospel of St. John and of the Epistles of St. John and St. Jude.—A Literal Translation of the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Hebrews, and an English Version of the same, as also of the Epistle to the Romans.—A Literal Translation of the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians, and an English Version of the same. By H. Heinfetter.—These so-called literal translations are neither intelligible to an English reader nor faithful to the original Greek. What Mr. Heinfetter's "definite rules of translation" are, we do not pretend to know; but if they lead him to such interpretations as he has here given, they are not worth much. It is rather amusing to find him defending a ridiculous blunder by referring to 'Donnegan's Lexicon' as his authority. The English versions are pretty much like our authorized version. Where they differ from it they generally differ for the worse. They not unfrequently contradict the literal translations.

Diamond Map of the Latin Syntax. By W. Hall.—A neat little synopsis of all the principal rules of Latin syntax, illustrated by suitable examples. It exhibits at one view the usages connected with each case of nouns; the exemplification being given on other pages, in order to serve as a better test of the pupil's knowledge,—who is to cite the rule applicable to each sentence.

A Practical Introduction to English Composition. By Robert Armstrong. Part I.—A book fully answering to its title. It is intended for schools, and will be found on trial very useful as a first book. It contains a clear and sufficient account of the construction of sentences, both simple and complex, and of the rules of punctuation; the whole being illustrated by well-chosen examples and followed up by directions for the composition of simple narrative. There is an abundance of exercises under every rule; and as they are all preceded by a model, the pupil will be able to do them without difficulty. But Mr. Armstrong has been careful not to make them too easy. Nobody can do them without some attention and thought. They are so adapted to the growing ability and increasing knowledge of the pupil as to ensure his improvement, and at the same time rather to interest than to dishearten him.

The Stepping-Stone to the French Language.—A spelling-book, phrase-book, and vocabulary all in one for sixpence.

Gregory of Nazianzum, a Contribution to the Ecclesiastical History of the Fourth Century. By Dr. Carl Ullman, translated by G. V. Cox, M.A.—Students of ecclesiastical history will find this an interesting and instructive work. It contains a full account of every stage of Gregory's career:—his residence as a student at Athens, his relations with Julian the Emperor, his public and private life at Constantinople, and his character and death. The original is about twice the bulk of the translation, one half comprising a description of his theological opinions. This part, though nearly translated, is withheld for the present. Enough, however, is found in this volume to give the reader a very good idea of what Gregory was and did. Besides the strictly biographical details, there is a large amount of historical information incidentally conveyed. Dr. Ullman has handled his theme in a scholarly and philosophical manner. Of the translator's part of the work it is scarcely possible to speak too highly. His rendering displays a thorough mastery over the difficulties of such a task. We have rarely met with a translation so correct, and bearing so few traces of its foreign origin. But for the announcement on the title-page, nobody would imagine it to be a translation at all—the style is so purely English. The notes supply very useful illustrations, and references which the student will do well to consult.

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THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

The following important document—by which the Royal Commissioners seek a renewal from the Crown of their expiring powers, in order to enable them to deal with the surplus in their hands—has just been made public.—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

May it please your Majesty,—

We, the Commissioners appointed by your Majesty's Royal Warrant of the 3rd of January 1850, for the Promotion of the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations, and subsequently incorporated by your Majesty's Royal charter of the 15th of August 1850, humbly beg to submit to your Majesty the following Report.

The Exhibition for the promotion of which we were appointed by your Majesty was finally closed on the 15th of October of this year, and we humbly beg to report to your Majesty that the medals and prizes have been awarded to the successful Exhibitors by the juries appointed to judge on the merits of their productions, and are in course of distribution. The full reports of the juries will be laid before your Majesty when completed, together with the list of the successful competitors. We are now engaged in bringing to a close all the business connected with the Exhibition, and in defraying the various expenses incurred during its progress. Most of the claims on the funds at our disposal, however, are already discharged, and after all shall have been satisfied a considerable surplus will remain, the precise amount of which cannot be ascertained until the accounts are finally wound up, when they will be duly laid before your Majesty, but which surplus we have reason to believe will not be less than 150,000*l*.

This surplus will consist in the balance that may remain in our hands, after deducting all expenditure from the sum of (in round numbers) 505,000*l*. which has been derived from the following sources:

	£
Subscriptions	67,400
Entrance Fees	424,400
Casual Receipts	13,200
Total	£505,000

Of the entrance fees, a portion has been paid by foreign visitors, and it was owing to the fact that the contributions of all nations were there displayed that the number of visits made by persons attracted to the Exhibition amounted to upwards of 6,000,000.

The subscriptions were derived, with few exceptions, solely from your Majesty's subjects, and were made after a public announcement that they must be "absolute and definite," but that should any surplus remain, it was the intention of your Majesty's Commissioners to apply the same to purposes strictly in connexion with the ends of the Exhibition, or for the establishment of similar Exhibitions for the future."

We humbly beg to represent to your Majesty that we are of opinion that it is not advisable to apply the surplus to the last-named purpose. Considering that the Exhibition which has just closed has afforded ample proof that an undertaking of this kind can be made self-supporting, and that it may safely be left to the public again to provide, when required, the means of meeting the preliminary expenses,—considering also the impossibility of fixing long beforehand any definite period for the repetition of such an Exhibition, which requires for its success so many concurrent circumstances; we are of opinion that greater benefit may be derived by the public from a judicious application in the interval of the means at our disposal to the furtherance of the general objects for which the Exhibition was designed, and in such a manner that the advantages which may be obtained should not be confined solely to your Majesty's subjects, but should be shared, as far as it may be possible, by other countries.

These objects your Majesty's Commissioners conceive to have been the furtherance of every branch of human industry, by the comparison of the processes employed, and of the results obtained by all the nations of the earth—and the promotion of kindly international feelings, by the practical illustration of the advantages which may be derived by each country from what has been done by others. Your Majesty's Commissioners have the satisfaction to be able to express to your Majesty their conviction that the Exhibition has to a great extent attained these objects, and that in its consequences the most beneficial results may yet be expected.

Already many requirements on the part of the public have become apparent during the course of the Exhibition, and have found expression in various suggestions made to us for the application of the surplus; many of them, however, were for objects quite inconsistent with the pledges above alluded to, whilst others, though for purposes in accordance with them, were of a limited, partial, or local character.

Your Majesty's Commissioners are of opinion that no measures could be so strictly in accordance with the ends of the Exhibition as those which may increase the means of industrial education and extend the influence of Science and Art upon productive industry. We are fully aware of the difficulty of devising a comprehensive plan to meet these objects; should the view, however, which we have taken as to the manner of fulfilling our pledges meet with your Majesty's approbation, we beg to assure your Majesty that we shall give our fullest and most careful consideration to this important subject, and we would suggest that full time should be afforded us to consider and mature such a plan as we should feel warranted in laying before your Majesty, the more so as from the disproportion between the end proposed and the means at present applicable to it, much will depend on the extent of co-operation we may receive from the public.

We are advised, however, that our powers under your Majesty's Royal Charter will cease when all the expenses incidental to the Exhibition shall have been discharged, and notice thereof given to your Majesty's Secretary of State, and that we have not the power of deciding upon the disposal of the surplus.

If, therefore, it be your Majesty's pleasure that we should act further in this matter, it will be necessary before we can take even any preliminary step, that your Majesty should grant to us by Royal Charter such further powers as your Majesty may deem necessary to enable us to lay before your Majesty a scheme for the application of the surplus in accordance with the expectations held out to the public, and with the sanction and approval of your Majesty to adopt such measures as may be necessary for such purpose.

All which we humbly take leave to report to your Majesty.

Given under our corporate seal this sixth day of November in the year of our Lord 1851.

(L.S.) (Signed) ALBERT,
President of the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT WITH AMERICA.

Atlantic, October 31.

From a conviction of the great importance of this subject as affecting the interests of a large class of my fellow countrymen in particular, and of the whole of the reading community at large,—I have made a point during a visit to the United States of ascertaining as far as practicable the feelings of our American neighbours thereon, with the view of arriving at what our prospects really are,—how they may have been affected by Lord Campbell's recent judgment recognizing the copyright of American authors in our country,—the probable effect which a reversal of such decision would have,—and lastly the practicability of some immediate measure to meet the existing evils.

The evil complained of and its remedy may be well discussed under the following heads:—

1. The law as it is and its effects.
2. The interests and wishes of authors, publishers and people.
3. The law as it might be.

1. The anomaly presented by the existing state of the law is too well known to need recapitulation here. It is notorious that Prescott, Cooper, Washington Irving, Melville, or any successful author of yesterday can and does receive as much in Great Britain as in America;—whilst Macaulay — whose 'History of England' has a circulation in the State of nearly 200,000—Dickens, or any other of our best authors, receives nothing more than a mere gratuity through an English agent for the compliment of obtaining an early copy of his book to reprint from. These, I say, are notorious facts,—and need no comment;—and the result is equally apparent,—that American literature must always have an English tone,—English literature be taxed to an exorbitant extent to remunerate the author,—and the people of each country suffer. Why should Macaulay's 'England' be 32*s*. in England, and the same edition 6*s*. in the United States! Only because the whole of the author's profit *depends on the English sale*:—which scarcely amounts to a fourth of the sale amongst the reading people of America. It may be urged that this is an extreme case, if not an isolated one. As regards the circulation of the particular book, it may be so:—but it exemplifies the system,—and every author and all his works are affected to a proportionate extent. I will refer to the works of an author of more moderate renown, but justly admired in Great Britain. My attention being specially drawn in a New York publisher's store to a goodly row of foolscap volumes of his works,—I ascertained their average sale at 75 cents, 3*s*., per volume to have reached 8,000 copies;—whilst in England their sale only averages from 2,000 to 3,000, the price of each volume being 6*s*. 6*d*. or 7*s*. As regards appearance in getting up, the American edition, too, has the advantage. The effect of this systematic reprint of English books in America is far more prejudicial to our authors than appears to be estimated at home. The prohibition into our colonies attempted to be enforced some few years back has signally failed,—no less than the subsequent amended measures for the restriction of the sale therein. Colony after colony is now admitting American reprints, at a duty of from 12½ to 25 per cent. according to local enactment. That this system, although it may annoy, offers no impediment to the importation is evident, so far at least as Canada is concerned; and I found in all its chief cities that the book trade is nearly confined to American reprints,—many a bookseller never having ever seen an English edition of Macaulay's 'England.' In answer to my remark—"At least the author obtains a portion of the duty" (as intended by the law),—it was stated that *no amount had yet been realized for any English author*, the whole proceeds of the impost being engrossed by the expenses of stationery and salaries. It will be seen, therefore, that the question at issue is even more than the author's right to his works in a foreign land;—and this brings me to consider the second point.

2. It would be useless to overlook that there is a large party both in America and in England denying the rights of an author to profit from his works *out* of his own country. The real tendency of this opinion, when the argument is raised, invariably shews itself to be, an entire free trade in literature:—such persons always coming to the point that a book once published becomes public property, and the author has no more power over the price at which it is sold, &c. Passing over the manifest difficulties of such a position no less than its injustice, I beg to bear testimony to the fact, that both authors and publishers of America have been, and are increasingly, anxious to secure some adequate international arrangement by which the literary interests of both countries may be secured, —and that the opinion of the people at large is now decidedly in favour of reciprocating, at least to a certain extent, the protection recently confirmed to American authors in England. No other step could have been taken at home to secure so great an improvement in public feeling throughout the States as this. The Americans like not to be outdone in generosity; and their sense of justice has been partly enlisted on the same side since the decision of the English court of law. I will maintain,—to nothing else shall we be indebted for obtaining an international copyright,—and nothing could so effectually check it as the overruling of the judgment of Lord Campbell in

the House of Lords. That the attempt has been relinquished I hear with unfeigned pleasure. As I doubt not that the opinions of the promoters of the meeting in July last are held by a small and interested party, so am I equally convinced that were it possible to have acted on them a most prejudicial effect on the cause of literature and international equity would have been perpetrated. I think, then, it is clearly seen that the interests of authors and publishers demand some alteration in the existing law,—and that, as far as can be judged, public feeling is in both countries in its favour. The feeling of the American publishers—as I have been during the last few weeks enabled to gather it—offers somewhat of an index to the state of public opinion;—and it is gratifying to be able to report that, with the exception of one principal firm, there is an uniform expression of agreement to the form of protection I suggested. Even the firm referred to stated that this protection "certainly would *not be opposed* by them;—but as advocacy of it would lay them open to the charge of acting on interested grounds, they must decline to interfere."

3. The third point comprehends the suggestion referred to—viz., that authors shall have protection for the first five years for their works in foreign countries, dating from the first publication in their own,—and that such protected right be transferable. It would be tedious, as it were unnecessary, to go through all the arguments bearing on this position. After much consideration, I am convinced that it is the best that can be attempted with any hope of success. Accustomed as the Americans are to cheap literature, it is neither to be expected, nor indeed is it desirable or requisite, that they should voluntarily impose the high prices that must result from an injudicious recognition and enforcement of our own copyright laws. The utmost that our authors can expect to obtain is, the right to sell a substantial priority of publication such as I speak of:—and on the other hand this is what our friends the Americans cannot and will not oppose. The case of Mr. G. P. R. James proves that there is a corresponding readiness with them to recognize the claims of English authors, and to support such a moderate measure for their protection as we have lately displayed towards them. His position (that of a temporary citizen) in "The States" is about analogous to that of an author under a few years' protection. He now obtains adequate compensation; and yet, so large is the circulation of his books and the energy and enterprise of his publishers, that his recent novel, published in Great Britain for one guinea and a-half, is issued in New York, in a handsome octavo volume, stitched, for 50 cents,—or 2*s.* 1*d.* sterling. One such illustration as this will go farther to prove what may be attempted with success, and carried out to the benefit of our British authors, without loss to the American people, than anything more that could be urged by—Yours,

S. L. jun.

ORDER OF MERIT—THE BATH.

I agree in all that you have said as to the policy—the necessity—of the Queen having it in her power to confer some appropriate honour on those whose genius, learning, or virtues bring honour on the nation, or who render service to the nation, although not public servants, either civil or military; and I agree that, if there be no other means of recognizing such services, an "Order of Civil Merit" is absolutely required. But I submit that the establishment of such an "Order" is not without objection; that it would perpetuate distinctions that ought not to exist, and tend to create rivalry and jealousy, and therefore run counter to the spirit of the age, and the enlightened and liberal spirit which has suggested such an "Order." The argument in its favour seems to rest on the assumption that the "Order of the Bath" is not open to persons, whatever may be their services, who are not in the employment of the Crown. This, I think, is a mistake. I know of course the narrow spirit in which the Statutes of the Order have been hitherto interpreted. I am aware of the prejudices which were offended when the Bath was thrown open to the Civil Service,—fully aware that to interpret the Statutes more liberally would still further offend the prejudices of the half-thinking and the no-thinking imbecilities of a past age which yet linger amongst us;—but I shall confine myself to the Statutes themselves, and leave you and others, more able, to deal with the general question.

The "Letters Patent" of Her Majesty by which the Order of the Bath is now constituted set forth, that it is "expedient" that "changes should be made in the constitution of the said Order with a view to the adaptation thereby *to the altered state and circumstances of society.*" This, it must be admitted, is in the spirit of the age and of your article. I then refer to the Statutes themselves; and they set forth:—"Whereas, by the said recited Letters Patent of the tenth year of our reign, certain material changes have been made in the constitution of the said Order, so as to accommodate the same *to the present and future exigencies of our realm, and to the due distribution of appropriate rewards* amongst such of *our faithful subjects* as are now or shall hereafter become pre-eminently distinguished by their loyalty and merit in the military or civil service of us, our heirs and successors, *or shall otherwise have merited our favour.*" Can words be more comprehensive?—"Material changes" are made in the statutes of the Order, expressly with a view to the adaptation thereof to the altered state and circumstances of society, and the due distribution of appropriate rewards amongst Her Majesty's "faithful subjects"—those who shall be distinguished in the "Military or Civil Service," or—"mark this!—"*shall otherwise have merited our favour.* Yet, with these specific words in explanation of the general and declared intention, we are told that the Order of the Bath is by its statutes expressly confined as a reward to "Military and Civil Service." Then, who I ask are the *third* parties especially referred to—who, being neither in the military nor in the civil service, may, it is assumed, merit Her Majesty's favour? The objectors I suppose rest their case on the eighth Ordinance, which sets forth that "no persons shall be nominated members of the Order who shall not by their personal services to our Crown, or by the performance of *public* duties, have merited our royal favour." Admitting, for the moment, that there is some force in the restricted interpretation of this Ordinance, that interpretation could have no application whatever to the Commissioners and others connected with the late Exhibition,—for they acted expressly *under Her Majesty's Commission,* and therefore did perform "public duties" according to the narrowest construction of the shallowest of red-tapists. But I deny that this Ordinance has any such restrictive power. It must be read and interpreted in the spirit of the Letters Patent; and so interpreted, public *duties* and public *services* are one and the same thing,—the preference of course being in favour of those who perform public services without being enforced thereto as a public duty. Every man, I say, who by his learning or by his genius brings honour on the nation does good and *the best* service to the Crown:—and such men, and all men who on occasion of the late great national triumph rendered service to the nation, are eligible to the honour of the Bath. I am, &c. F.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Essex will have at least a temporary celebrity for two of its lions:—Chief Justice Tindal sitting on his pump in the Pig-Market at Chelmsford, and the Asylum for Idiots located in Essex Hall, at Colchester. Our readers know the original and entertaining story of the first,—that of the second is told in the report of the board of management for 1851 now before us. The asylum is a graver theme than the conduit—and in the shadow of its walls the good people of Essex may shelter from the shower of squibs and crackers which must be constantly playing around the latter. We have watched the band of earnest men who four years ago entered heart and soul into the then doubtful experiment of idiot treatment with no ordinary interest. We have seen their difficulties vanish one after another before earnest faith in nature and unresting devotion to her cause. At the outset no task could well have appeared less hopeful than that which they undertook. Everything was to be done. Everybody, from the patient to the practitioner, had to be taught. The theory had to be sustained as well as the practice. These reformers started with a new truth—which was a conviction rather than a fact, and needed to be proved from experience. They wished to show the world that the idiot is not an utter castaway. They therefore, to quote their own words in this new report, adopted the rule—"to deem no case ineligible, however bad in itself, and however burdensome to themselves, where there was the reasonable prospect of amendment." Some of the results, after three years of practical treatment of these poor creatures, may now be counted. Of the entire number on which their humane skill has been tried, at the period of entering the institution 25 were unable to walk, 114 were unable to feed, dress, or take care of their persons, 20 were epileptic, 12 paralyzed, 68 dumb, and 25 under nine years of age,—but, of course, all of them subjects of physical infirmity and mental imbecility. So helpless and unpromising a family had perhaps never before been brought together. Nevertheless, of this list of unfortunates 6 have been taught to walk, and 14 are much improved in the use of their limbs; 27 of those who had been dumb or who made strange and unmeaning noises are getting the use of articulate sounds and beginning to speak; 48 have been taught to feed and dress themselves, and to observe cleanly habits; 23 have been taught to read, 27 to write, 11 to cipher, and 16 to draw. Some are learning music, nearly all singing, and most of them are in the drilling or gymnastic classes. Order has been established in the institution, good habits have been formed, and we are assured that a high standard of health and happiness has been established amongst the patients. It appears by the report that the board of management have bought a site for the new institution which it is proposed to erect, somewhere "within half-an-hour of London:"—but they do not feel justified in proceeding with the works until the building fund of 10,000*l.* shall have been raised by subscriptions,—towards which sum, however, scarcely a fourth has yet been received.

Miss Overweg has received a letter from Dr. Dickson, of Tripoli,—a gentleman who takes a lively interest in the Expedition to Central Africa,—and who greatly assisted the travellers during their stay in that city. This letter, dated Tripoli, 8th of October, contains most gratifying news of the travellers up to the 8th of August. Dr. Overweg had safely joined his companion, Dr. Barth, at Kuka. Both were in the best health and spirits:—and the latter had started on a highly interesting excursion to the kingdom of Adamowa, while the former was exploring Lake Tsad. The boat, which had been taken to pieces in Tripoli, and during a journey of twelve months had with immense trouble been carried on camels across the burning sands of the Sahrá, had been put together and launched on the lake; and the English colours were hoisted in the presence, and to the great delight, of numerous natives. Dr. Overweg in exploring the islands of Lake Tsad had been everywhere received with great kindness by their Pagan inhabitants. The rainy season had commenced,—during which the travellers would be compelled to remain quiet about two months at Kuka. More ample information is now daily expected.

It will be remembered that about two years ago the assurance principle was applied in rather a novel form to railways, by the establishment of a company for insuring to railway passengers compensation in cases of accident. If the passenger was killed, his executors were to receive the full amount of the assurance which he might have effected;—if injured only, the assurer himself was to receive a proportionate and liberal award out of the sum covered by his assurance ticket—or rather his assurance policy,—for it was part of the legal scheme of the company that all its "tickets" were to be construed as "policies," and all the railway clerks by whom they were issued were to be regarded in point of law as authorized agents of the company for the issue of policies. This plan has now been in operation for two years; and we learn from an official report issued the other day

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that on the whole it has been successful. At first the directors began without proper data,—and they fell of course into error. They underrated their risks, and they fixed on too low a scale of premiums. They have now amended their scheme of business,—and they express confidence in the soundness of their adventure. The statistics of their operations are curious. It appears, for example, that during the six months ended the 30th of June last the company issued 19,000 of their first-class insurance tickets, 41,000 second-class, and 58,000 third-class. They received 3,155*l.* in premiums on these tickets,—they paid 2,068*l.* as compensation for two fatal cases and fifty-three partial cases of accident,—and they made arrangements for the sale of these tickets at 144 additional railway stations. It appears, also, that they have entered on a most useful and praise-worthy extension of their scheme by the insurance against accident of the servants—high and low—of the several railway companies.—We ought to say, that another company on a similar basis has been for some time in existence,—but professing to cover a wider field, inasmuch as its policies grant compensation for accidents occurring on railways *or in any other mode.* In other words, the older company insures against accidents of one kind,—the new company insures against accidents of all kinds:—and in a scientific point of view both schemes are sound. The reduction into practice is a question of data, prudence and perseverance.

A few weeks ago a cargo of books on Oriental languages and literature arrived in Cork, as a present from the East India Company to the Queen's College in that city. The good people turned over the leaves of these works, admired the curious twists and contortions of Sanscrit and Arabic letters, and wondered what was meant by sending such a present to the capital of Munster. The secret has now come out in the agreeable shape of an announcement that the President of the Board of Control, Lord Broughton de Gyfford, has placed at the disposal of Lord Clarendon, in his capacity of Chancellor of the University, a Writership in the civil service of the great company, to be bestowed by him on one of the students as a reward for academic merit. Education is indebted for this boon—important in itself, still more so as a precedent for a new and more honourable distribution of government offices in the future—chiefly to Sir Robert Kane,—but the fact is creditable to all parties concerned. No post in the Indian civil service is necessarily closed against the man who may obtain this Writership. He will begin the world in that country with far greater advantages than Clive or Hastings possessed in the early part of their career.

At length an attempt is in progress to drain the Regent's Park. Workmen are employed in digging deep trenches for the earthenware tubes. No movement in the metropolis was more called for in behalf of public health than this drainage,—and now that it is undertaken it is to be hoped that it will be done thoroughly.

As a proof of the strong feeling which exists of the necessity of an enlarged system of industrial education, we may mention the fact that the gifts made by the exhibitors of minerals, metallurgical processes, mining and other models, to the Museum of Practical Geology have been most extensive. Messrs. Naylor, Vickers & Co. have presented their models of steel works and specimens of steel,—Mr. Bird, his collection of manufactured iron,—Mr. Blackwell, his extensive series of iron ores,—Mr. Morries Stirling, his metallic alloys,—Messrs. Solly & Co., specimens of their steel manufacture,—Mr. Nicholas Wood, models of coal working,—Mr. Foudrinier, his safety apparatus for raising or lowering miners,—the proprietors of the Devon Great Consols, their beautiful water-wheels,—Messrs. Hartly & Co., of Newcastle, their model of glass-house, and specimens of the manufacture of sheet glass. Numerous other presents, of the minerals exhibited, &c. have been made to this national establishment. Foreign States have not been behind in liberality. The Zollverein States, Austria, Russia and Spain have presented complete series of their minerals and metals:—thus rendering important service to an institution so essentially practical as the one in Jermyn Street.

Amidst the busy innovations of this active time, it is very difficult to appreciate as it deserves the great social progress which, in spite of all our imperfections and of all the obstacles that beset our path, has been made by this country since the close of the war. The immense fall, for example, which has taken place in the cost of all the articles of food and clothing that enter into the consumption of the working and middle, and also of the higher, classes, is in its effects equivalent to a social change of the most important kind. An intelligent correspondent of one of the ablest of our contemporaries has recently placed some of the facts connected with this change in a striking point of view. He met with an aged and observant cottager who was old enough to remember very distinctly the prices of commodities, or rather the cost of a cottager's household in 1810; and taking down from the lips of the informant the prices of that year and placing them in juxtaposition with the prices of 1851, the writer in question produces a most suggestive document. Let us refer to a few of the comparative prices at the two periods. The price of a hat, for instance, in 1810 was 20*s.*, and in 1851 it had fallen to 7*s.*—or, if a labourer's weekly wages had been paid for in hats, he would have had three times as great a supply in the present year as he had forty years ago. A gown cost 21*s.* in 1810,—and only 6*s.* in 1851. Calico was 2*s.* 9*d.* a yard, against 6*d.* at present. Tea was 8*s.* per lb., against 4*s.* now. Brown sugar was 10*d.*—and is now 4*d.* Salt was 18*s.* per bushel,—and has now fallen to 1*s.* A bushel of flour was 20*s.* in 1810,—and 5*s.* in 1851:—but then we must remember that 1810 was a famine year. It may be said in reply to these facts, that the rate of money wages has fallen with the rate of money prices. But this is an assertion very difficult to prove. In some few cases there has been a great decline in money wages; but beyond doubt, as a general result, it must be confessed that money wages have *not* declined in the same ratio as money prices,—and therefore that the condition of the people is materially improved, inasmuch as the real or commodity price of their labour is probably as much as one-third, or one-half, or three-fourths better than it was in 1810.

The French papers report the death, at Moscow, of M. de Saint Priest—a member of the French Academy, formerly a Peer of France,—and the author of several historical works.

We hear from Rome that the library of the Vatican is to receive the valuable collection of oriental manuscripts made by the late Monsignor Molsa,—Laureani's successor.

A Correspondent says:—"The Italian Journals speak of a plan submitted by the Inspector of Telegraphs, M. Rad, of Vienna, to the Austrian Government, relating to a universal telegraphic line throughout Europe,—to India, &c. On the other hand, M. G. J. Ascali is publishing a little work, entitled Paxitelegraphia, relating to the plan of a universal telegraphic language.—Thus a final method of international intelligence will be obtained."

After a fast, there should be a feast, says an ancient proverb. After a battle, a scourge—a disaster of any kind—history declares that there is much marrying and giving in marriage. Human nature is indeed wonderfully elastic. The sources of joy and grief, smiles and tears lie near to each other,—and by a wise provision of things, there is a constant action and reaction in the heart and its impulses, which keep a balance in the long run. The intense vitality of the race—its instinctive resolution not to die off—has long puzzled the philosopher. Even the prosiest of old chroniclers, living in days when population was less thickly sown on the earth's surface, and therefore when temporary local clearances were easily and often made, saw with interest that men are like certain trees, the more they are hacked the faster they multiply. The same truth re-appears in the pages of one of the prosiest annalists of these times—the Registrar General. After the recent famine, cholera and agricultural distress, there has followed a spring tide of emotion, devotion and prosperity. Never but once has England known so many weddings in a single summer as the lists just published show of the present year. In ten years the number has risen nearly 10,000—10,000 for three months,—more than 111 extra weddings, or 222 extra persons wedded a day. And yet there are men who still talk of national decline, of the springs of industry being loosened, of increase of present apathy and future despair. No doubt the Croakers have a disagreeable and heavy task. Charm they never so wisely, the world, busy with its wedding breakfasts and its christenings, will not stay to listen. No amount of croaking likely to be got up in these islands can drown the music of these 10,000 extra marriage bells! The increase has not, however, been uniform throughout the country. London, which takes the lead in most things, sets an example in this act of social rejoicing. During the summer now past 13,430 persons were married:—exceeding the number in the summer of 1848 by 2,212. In Surrey (out of London), in Sussex, Kent and Berkshire, the marriages were nearly stationary. In Hampshire they decreased. In the South Midland and Eastern Counties, as well as in Wiltshire, Dorsetshire and Devonshire, marriage was stationary or decreased. In Cornwall and Somersetshire there was an increase. In Gloucestershire marriage was stationary. In Herefordshire and Shropshire, the numbers married were unprecedentedly low. In Staffordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire—including the chief seats of the Midland iron trade—the marriages increased. In the town of Birmingham they rose from 353 in 1848 to 487. Leicestershire, Rutlandshire and Lincolnshire were below—Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire above—the average:—the excess occurring chiefly in the districts of Nottingham, Chesterfield and Hayfield. The marriages in Cheshire and Lancashire decreased. The decrease was considerable in Liverpool, and greater still in Manchester. This is perhaps, on the whole, the most remarkable fact presented by the returns. In the West Riding of Yorkshire, there is an excess; most conspicuous in Sheffield. The marriages decreased in the North Riding of Yorkshire, in Northumberland, and in Cumberland;—increased in the coal districts of Durham. In Monmouthshire and Wales they were less frequent than in 1850. As the Registrar observes,—"The marriages have been in excess generally where cholera was most fatal in 1849." The same bells ring the death knell and the wedding peal;—in one breath the heralds announce the demise of one sovereign and the accession of another. So it is throughout. Nature has wisely and beautifully designed it, that the funeral baked meats should often serve to furnish forth the marriage tables. Where there has been great and sudden waste, it is pleasant to see the instinctive effort to repair it by a process more than usually rapid. This instinct has hitherto developed itself with something like the regularity of a law,—and we venture to think it will continue to do so in spite of all the Croakers and Fitz-Malthuses in existence.

ENGLISH ART.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec. Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN is exhibited immediately preceding the Diorama of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Docks, [illegible] the Tagus, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mausoleum, "The Taj Mehal," the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior.—Daily at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—'Projected Expedition to the North-Eastern Shores of Siberia, in Search of Sir John Franklin,' by Lieut. Bedford Pim, R.N.—'Accounts from the Mission to Central Africa,' by Dr. Barth, communicated by the Foreign Office.
— Royal Academy, 8.—'On Anatomy,' by Prof. Green.
Tues. Civil Engineers, 8.—'An Investigation of the Strains upon the Diagonals of Lattice Beams, with the resulting [illegible],' by W. T. Doyne and W. B. Blood.—'Description of the Viaduct erected over the River Nore, near Thomastown, in the County of Kilkenny, to carry the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway,' by W. S. Moorsom.
— Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.—'On the Relative Capacity of the Cranium in the Negro, Chimpanzee, and Orang-Utan,' by Prof. Owen,—and other papers.

— Syro-Egyptian, half-past 7.
Wed. Literary Fund, 3.
Thurs. Royal Society of Literature, 4.
Fri. Astronomical, 8.
Sat. Asiatic, 2.
— Medical, 8.

FINE ARTS

MR. WILLIAM WYON, R.A.

The daily papers have announced the death, at Brighton, on the 29th of October, of Mr. William Wyon,—a medal engraver of admirable skill, probably more widely known by his works than any other living artist. We say more widely known, because Mr. Wyon was the engraver of the later coins of King George the Fourth and of all the coins of William the Fourth and of Her present Majesty,—and gold, silver and copper when in the shape of sterling money are carried beyond the narrower circles to which the other branches of Art are unavoidably confined.

Mr. Wyon was of German descent:—the son of Peter Wyon, a die-sinker at Birmingham, in partnership with his elder brother Thomas. He was born at Birmingham in 1795,—apprenticed to his father,—and evinced when very young that taste, feeling, and skill in his art of which he has left behind him so many admirable examples. He came of a race of die-sinkers and engravers. His grandfather was the George Wyon who executed the silver cup embossed with the assassination of Julius Cæsar presented by the City of London to John Wilkes.

Mr. Wyon's early works were, copies of the heads of Hercules, Ceres, &c. The figure of Antinous—a work of a few years later—was so much to the liking of his father that he had it set in gold and wore it as a seal to his dying day.

In 1816 Mr. Wyon came to London—and in that year he was appointed second engraver in the Royal Mint. He gained the appointment by competition:—Sir Thomas Lawrence deciding for the Master. His "trial-piece"—for so Simon would have called it—was, a head of George the Third. Mr. Wyon's cousin Thomas was then the chief engraver.

Mr. Wyon had now a fair field and an honourable career before him:—but his hopes were darkened—first by the untimely death of his cousin the chief engraver—and secondly by the appointment to the office of chief engraver of Mr. Pistrucci, then a new importation into the Mint, and a favourite with the Master. Mr. Pistrucci was a skilful artist,—but an indolent one; and much of his work devolved on Mr. Wyon, without, it appears, any increase to his pay.—Differences arose which led to divisions,—a new Master came, —and Mr. Wyon was made chief engraver with one-half of Mr. Pistrucci's salary,—Mr. Pistrucci being allowed to receive the other half. To relate what followed would lead us into inextricable difficulties. Mr. Nicholas Carlisle was the champion of Mr. Wyon in a printed memoir of his life and a catalogue of his works,—and Mr. Hamilton was the champion of Mr. Pistrucci in a bold rejoinder to Mr. Carlisle. The public feeling, as shown by the Royal Academy, was in favour of Mr. Wyon. In 1832 he was elected an Associate of that body —and in 1838, a full Academician. That the Royal Academy was right in the preference of Mr. Wyon over Mr. Pistrucci was, we believe, generally maintained. Mr. Pistrucci never did justice to his genius, excepting on one or two occasions (his head of George the Fourth is very fine),—and seldom, if ever, to his tact or temper. Mr. Hamilton was equally intemperate. Nor is this said without a careful and impartial inquiry derived from the Memoir and the Replies—from Treasury Minutes and Parliamentary Papers—from Mr. Wyon's evidence and from that of Mr. Pistrucci.

Mr. Wyon's works may be classified under the several heads of coins—pattern-pieces not coined —medals—and seals. His coins of George the Fourth and William the Fourth are from the models of Chantrey,—his Queen Victoria coins from models by himself. His patterns include a ten-pound piece of William the Fourth—a five-pound piece, a crown piece, and nine patterns of the florins of Her present Majesty. The five-pound piece has a figure of Una on the reverse,—and the general feeling in the crown-piece is of a mediæval character. The florins have as yet scarcely got into circulation; and the crown-piece was not struck for the public, because the Company of Moneyers who then farmed the Mint were required to take more than their usual care in striking it, and extra care would have reduced the profits of the company. Mr. Wyon is known to have felt the determination of the company as an injury to his fame:—but now that the body is abolished the crown will perhaps be struck. The new Master (Sir John Herschel) is alive to the best interests of the Mint,—and has, it is said, a true feeling for Art. Crowns, however, it must be admitted, are clumsy coins.

Mr. Wyon's medals—for he was never idle—include the recent war medals of the Peninsula, Trafalgar, Jelalabad and Cabul,—the civic medals of the Royal Academy, the Royal Society, the Royal Institution, the Geological Society, the Geographical Society, the Bengal Asiatic Society, and indeed of almost every learned society, home and colonial. Some of these have on the obverses heads from the antique, from modern and from living personages. The Harrow School Medal given by the late Sir Robert Peel bears a head of Cicero,—the Royal Institution Medal, the head of Lord Bacon,—the prize Medal of the University of Glasgow, the head of Sir Isaac Newton,—the Geological Society Medal, the head of Dr. Wollaston,—the Art Union Medal, the head of Sir Francis Chantrey,—and the Brodie testimonial, the head of Sir Benjamin Brodie. Some of the reverses of Mr. Wyon's medals were executed from designs by Flaxman, Howard and others; but many—and those some of the best—are from designs by himself. His medal of Sir Walter Scott bears a reverse after Stothard,—and his coronation medal of William the Fourth, a reverse of Queen Adelaide, after Chantrey.

As an engraver of medals Mr. Wyon will stand hereafter in our English order of merit immediately after Thomas Simon. He has not equalled Simon; but he has surpassed Briot, the Roettiers, Rawlins, Blondeau, Croker, Tanner, Pingo, and Pistrucci. His heads have both force and delicacy,—and are always admirable in point of likeness. His reverses are conceived in the school of Flaxman:—for whose works he was known to have evinced greater enthusiasm than for those of any other modern artist.

Mr. Wyon was in his fifty-seventh year.—Much of his genius is inherited by his son Leonard:—known by his medals of Wordsworth and others,—and honourably distinguished, we observe, in the recent awards at the Great Exhibition.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Fine-Art Exhibition in the Museo Borbonico.

Naples.

Those who are in the habit of visiting our Exhibitions of Painting and Sculpture in London would be greatly disappointed with similar displays in Italy:—the more so perhaps as it is difficult to disconnect past triumph from present failures. Living in the midst of the wonderful productions of the pencil and the chisel, it might be supposed that something of the incomparable past would be found in the works of the modern Italian artist. Such, however, is not the case. Those who speak the same language as Raffaele, who live under the same sky, with the same nature around them, both animate and inanimate, now receive very different impressions and produce widely different results. If classical subject is attempted, you find a reproduction of the French school:—if a Madonna is painted, you have simply a doleful face, vulgar a little in conception and in colour. The flesh which Titian painted from Italian beauty is now rendered either with a brick-dust heat or with the grey marble aspect of death. The sunlight of Claude is superseded by noisy colour:—in fact, now-a-days a totally different result is produced from the same causes as those which gave a world-fame to the Italian schools.

Something may be said about the patronage of Art in Italy at the present moment. The Church has long ceased to buy great works:—a gaudy picture or a vulgar decoration is all that is now required to inspire devotional feelings in the temples of religion. So true is this assertion, that it frequently occurs when repairs in churches are taking place that you find the superior art destroyed by whitewash and bad paintings, from which Italians would formerly have turned with disgust. And yet there is a show of royal patronage. Every Italian Government sends young men to Rome at the expense of the Treasury. There, artists study from Michael Angelo and Raffaele; and though they are not obliged to paint down to any taste of the day, they produce nothing positively worthy of remark. They send home now and then a large canvas, and you see occasionally some good academical drawing,—but there is no life, no feeling; and almost always there are the very worst features of modern colour. By such means the palaces of royal princes are now hung with the valueless efforts of modern Italian art. The palace of the King of Naples at Capo di Monte is actually crowded with this class of works. What becomes of the grand historical painters, as they suppose themselves! You find them eventually painting little pictures, or rather views, for travellers—or large pictures too bad to sell to any one except the native royal princes who now and then buy a picture more for charity than for other motives. What is wanted in Italy for the production of superior art, is a healthy patronage—a public who buy pictures for their merit. That patronage does not exist. The nobility are generally poor; and the merchants, unlike those of England, are not educated. The Italian artist, therefore, must live either by the royal prince or by the travelling stranger:—equally fatal to his art. We have no longer in Italy such families as that of the Medici; —and as for the migratory patrons, they see so much better art at home that they do not care to spend their money on modern Italian productions.

I am inclined to believe that the increasing number of English artists who annually visit Italy gain much more from what they see around them than the natives. Wherein the British artist fails is, in the use or adaptation of what he sees in Italy; but he generally spends too much time amongst the old canvases, and pays too little attention to the nature which inspired and adorned them. He seldom improves in colour after a visit to Italy. Many contend that Wilkie lost by his travels; and certainly many a British artist has failed to make a proper use of his Italian experience.

These remarks have grown out of the Exhibition which I will now endeavour to report,—more for the purpose of showing what native artists are doing in Italy than as any attempt at criticism of works which, with few exceptions, will probably be never heard of out of Italy. Smargiassi is considered the best Neapolitan painter. He exhibits this year two large canvases—a Sunset and a Moonlight. The sunset is a composition which has more heat in it than light. This is an inspiration from the "Sunny South,"—but far away from what Turner has done under the grey sky of England. The Moonlight is a view of the Bay of Naples from Posilippo:—such a moonlight as we have in Naples—more like a silver day. The objects are clear and crisp in outline and true to Italian nature. These pictures are works of royal patronage. Fergola, the next artist in reputation as a landscape painter, exhibits a forest scene, with larger trees than I have ever seen in Italy,—where the artist must generally content himself with a pine. This work would scarcely pass muster in England. The brothers Carelli, who are known to a few English patrons, have sent some clever interiors of churches, in oil, in sepia, and in water colour. Of this class they are the best works in the Exhibition. They want, however, more breadth of light and shade, —more effect. They are more like the works of an architect than of a painter. Palizzi exhibits the best landscape in the gallery:—it is a large canvas called *An Approach to an ancient City*. The last rays of a summer sun fall on a grand mountain in the middle distance,—all around is in twilight,—a lake reflects the sunlight of the mountain,—and the foreground is scattered with architectural fragments. The sky is admirable, and almost breathes the salutation "*felice notte.*" This picture could have been painted only in Italy. The conception

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and execution are purely Italian. The best figure picture is by Oliva:—*Christ tied to be scourged.* It is very beautiful in drawing and fine in colour; but has no nature.—We have the usual subjects of Tasso in Prison, Ettore Fieramosca, the Brides of Venice, and other stock Italian stories, most of which may be found on ladies' fans, and almost all equally well executed. The portraits exhibited are severe satires on the affections or egotism, as the case may be, of those who have ordered them. In this branch of Art the Italians are far behind ourselves. The best small picture is by a German artist, Bielschowsky:—a female figure, a girl at the mineral springs of Sta. Lucia,—early morning. This is very simple, with a beautiful Italian sunlight effect. And here I may observe that the Neapolitan Exhibition is open to artists of all nations:—nor is any revision of works observed, which accounts for the presence of many canvases perfectly laughable. Vianelli, of European fame, does not exhibit any of his clever sepia interiors this year.

The hall of the celebrated Toro Farnese is occupied by works of sculpture. If there is nothing good, there are at least two groups highly amusing and significant. A Sicilian artist has amused himself and probably pleased his sovereign by composing a life-size group representing Religion supporting King Fardinand, and guarded by an angel who places his foot on an evil spirit. On the other side of this group is a child bearing the scales of justice! How much the artist is to get for this plaster blasphemy I know not; but a more impudent caricature (at the present moment) it would be difficult to imagine. Another artist has, however beaten the Sicilian artist right out. A small bronze group represents Religion triumphing over Impiety and Anarchy. Impiety is represented by a female figure, under whose arm are two books inscribed Voltaire and Luther! Anarchy has taken off her mask, and let fall two scrolls, on which, are written "Communismo" and "Costituto." On the pedestal we are told in Latin, that heaven has smiled on Pio Nono and on Ferdinand.—Very tame are the St. Michaels and the Nymphs after this:—and Neapolitan sculptors, I am sorry to say, work more *con amore* in representing hypocrisy and blasphemy than in portraying the beautiful and the artistic.—The architectural designs are worth studying by an Englishman for their breadth and nobility. There is no cramped economy of space,—which so frequently enters into our calculations. A group of miniatures, very good, by Courson, and some imitations in crayons from English works make up all that is worth noticing in that class.

On the whole there is little promise in this Exhibition. The genius of painting and sculpture has left its cradle:—and what talent remains languishes under the diseased patronage of princes and of a public whose attention is too much occupied with political troubles to reflect the peaceful images of Art.

H. W.

Fine-Art Gossip.—The four vacancies in the Associate list of the members of the Royal Academy were on Monday evening last filled up by the election of Messrs. Boxall, E. W. Cooke, Frank Stone, and Henry Weekes. A majority of the artists so chosen are, we believe, men whose admission into the ranks of the Academy the public approbation will very generally ratify:—and the principle of variety has been kept in view by the electors in recruiting for their corps of Associates. Mr. Boxall is well and popularly known for his portraits of our later native poets. Mr. Cooke is a painter of Dutch and other marine subjects,—and the author of some of the most beautiful etchings that have appeared in our country. His folio work on Old London Bridge will be remembered as an example. Mr. Frank Stone has been long a favourite with the public in a speciality which is too well known to the readers of the *Athenæum* to need description here,—but which has of late years been gradually expanding into a larger manner, and expatiating successfully over a wider field of practice. Mr. Weekes is a sculptor,—whose claim rests principally on one or two clever busts.—Without descending into invidious particulars, we may say that while this election to a large extent yields positive gratification, it yields, like every election of the kind, relative pain. The list of candidates numbered, we believe, sixty-five; and amongst these are men whose continued exposure to the sickness that springs from hope deferred cannot well be justified. Where four Associates are to be chosen out of sixty-five candidates, it is a matter of course that there will be sixty-one malcontents:—but it should not be matter of fact that on behalf of any the public should be malcontent too. Two at least of the gentlemen now chosen have waited long for the honour which falls to them at last,—and earned it by all titles, including that of delay. Others who have long been adding that probation to their other claims have not yet been fortunate enough to reach the same termination. For example, it is difficult to understand how, year by year, the claim of such works as Exhibition after Exhibition Mr. Linton has placed on the walls of the Academy can be overlooked. Men outside the Academy are puzzled, in this case and in others, into seeking what kind of arguments they can be which defeat a title that so far as the canvases are concerned is made out again and again. We cannot but say that the present election, most satisfactory as it is in some respects, gives point and urgency to these reflections.

The marble statue of Flaxman by the late Mr. M. L. Watson has been presented to University College by the committee for superintending its execution and erection. The subscription list includes the names of many persons distinguished in Literature and in Art, and by birth and rank,—but the amount subscribed is under 400*l.*—and is therefore insufficient to cover the ordinary expenses. The difference has been paid from the estate of Mr. Watson:—so that, in truth, the statue—and it is a fine one—is nearly as much a gift from the artist as from the subscribers. The statue has been placed amid Flaxman's own works:—of which, our readers know, the College possesses Flaxman's own models.

The Liverpool Academy of the Fine Arts has awarded its prize of 50*l.* to Mr. W. Holman Hunt for his picture of 'Valentine rescuing Sylvia from Proteus, and reproaching him for his falsity,"—taken from Shakspeare's 'Two Gentlemen of Verona.'

A valuable addition has just been made to our scanty knowledge of Vandyck. His marriage to Mary Ruthven, it now appears, took place only the year before he died:—Colonel Stepney Cowell in his Gowrie researches having discovered that in 1640 Patrick Ruthven assigned 120*l.* per annum to his daughter Mary *preparatory* to her marriage with Sir Anthony. The great artist died in 1641,—on the very day on which the only off-spring of their marriage was baptized.—Another fact from the Gowrie papers relates to Vandyck's works. Patrick Ruthven appealed in 1644—apparently ineffectually—to the House of Lords to prevent his granddaughter from being defrauded of her father's collection of pictures:—they, it is stated, being fraudulently sent out of England by one Richard Andrews.

A correspondent whose authority in such matters is absolute informs us that the picture of Apollo Slaying the Serpent Python, which decorates the ceiling of the Gallery of Apollo at the Louvre—to which we alluded in our Fine-Art Gossip of last week—is not, as we had been told, the work of M. Delaroche. M. Delaroche our correspondant describes as "Chief of the Anecdotical School of French Painters"; and he says—"It is M. Eugène Delacroix, Chief of the Anti-Classical or Colourist School," to whom this work—"assuredly his best," adds our correspondent—is due.

The statue of William the Conqueror—of which we spoke a week or two ago—has been inaugurated with great ceremonial in his native town of Falaise.

From our Paris correspondence we learn that the long projected completion of the Louvre is at length likely to be effected. The late Minister of Public Works nominated a commission to examine a plan of works to be executed for the purpose of uniting the North Gallery which joins the Tuileries by the Pavillon Marsan, and extends as far as the Rue de Rohan, with the Pavillon de Beauvais, which remains unfinished at the extremity of the Place de l'Oratoire. The part of this gallery near the Tuileries was commenced in 1807. It is for the present appropriated to the use of the National Guard, to the residence of the commander-in-chief of that force, and to a barracks. Its completion would render the Place du Carrousel a regular square, the largest in the world, by creating a building parallel to that of the picture gallery. Under the reign of King Louis Philippe, as our readers know, the completion of this gallery was often contemplated. Plans had been sent from all countries, and the King was desirous to see such a work accomplished.—The Council-general of the Seine proceeds with great energy with the work of continuing the Rue de Rivoli; the old houses so long an offence to the artistic eye in the Place du Carrousel are in course of being taken down, and a wide space is already cleared in front of the Palais National. The aspect of that part of Paris is greatly improved,—and will be rendered very imposing by the completion of the Louvre. The grant necessary for the execution of these important works will be shortly demanded from the Assembly,—and they will be carried on simultaneously with the prolongation of the Rue de Rivoli.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Lohengrin et Tannhaüser de Richard Wagner. By Franz Liszt.—The readers of the *Athenæum* may not have forgotten that the opera of 'Lohengrin,' last year performed at Weimar to inaugurate the statue of Herder, was noticed at some length by us—[No. 1194]. They may remember, too, that we have from time to time glanced at the state and prospects of Romanticism in music; of which in France M. Berlioz, and in Germany Herrn Schumann and Wagner, are the most distinguished *creating* representatives. In the pamphlet before us, we meet Dr. Liszt as the champion of the "new idea";—and the writer and the subject are alike sufficiently important to demand the most courteous, but also the closest, attention.

It may be as well once again to characterise Dr. Liszt as one of the men of genius who adorn a not very rich period. In executive music—as offering that interpretation which approaches towards and enhances creation—he is without a peer. In picturesque and high-toned eloquence as a writer he is little less distinguished. In such a man, however, it would be hardly fair to expect that the power to weigh should equal the power to enjoy, and to excite others. The enthusiasm that carries away an audience, and the calmly-balanced judgment that admits merits without grudging and that denounces faults without despair, are separate, if not opposite gifts.—While the magnificent pianist's hands are on his instrument, it is not easy to believe that any melody or chord which he pleases to protect can be insipid or crude.—While we have been reading this pamphlet it has required a more than ordinary effort to test the raptures which it expresses by our own impressions of the object of the rapture. Sincerity—self-consistency—the friendliness which will fight to the death—the perfect trust that confirms itself—are in every line. It is as eager and animated a piece of pleading as was ever given to the public; delightful as an addition to our too meagre stores of musical literature in right of its manner.

But, in proportion as we yield to enchantment of style, and sympathize with every author or artist who stands forward to illustrate what he conceives to be a new principle and to unveil one whom he worships as a new poet,—we are bound to reflect, to examine, and to compare. In the present case, we must examine how much of Dr. Liszt's own fervid and apprehensive nature exists in Herr Wagner's music;—how much of the art that continues or breeds art—that establishes a reputation—that marks a state of progress.—Let it be first observed, that the musical appearance with which we have to deal is neither an accidental nor an insulated phenomenon. It belongs to the tendencies of the time and the state

of society in which we are living. Every world of thoughtful imagination is at present traversed, not so much by revolution, as by the desire for revolution,—capriciously varied in its forms and utterances, but universally manifest. The Latter-day prophets who defy "brute force" and "golden silence" as the savage or the still fit takes them,—the pre-Raphelites, who protest against monotonous beauty in the most virtuously ugly outlines and the most gorgeously voluptuous colours,—the intellectual actors who emit strange noises by way of being natural in their passion, and do violence to the music of their dramatic poet's verse lest they should seem to have any old-world weakness for chaunt and cadence,—are severally exponents of the same impatience and weariness. They illustrate respectively the same determination to be profound and original,—but also the same lack of such fervent inspiration as kindled the Shakspeares and the Handels, and of such lofty strength and diligent culture as lifted up the Miltons and Michael Angelos to the conquests made by them for the world.

In the case of Herr Wagner, the existence of some such restless and vague ambition not borne out by any commensurate powers must, we think, have been deduced by us from Dr. Liszt's eager and earnest panegyric,—even if we could not speak from experience of the opera 'Lohengrin.'—

"Wagner's system [writes his panegyrist] attaches itself to the rebellion of Gluck by the importance he gives to the eloquence of dramatic declamation, and to that of Weber by the declamatory phraseology and melody of his instrumentation. He would certainly have written the prelatory epistle to 'Alceste,' if Gluck had not done so, but he has beyond much and Weber has anticipated of their theories. Appropriating, with a rare felicity and the noblest possible intelligence, all the conquests which music has made since the death of those great men,—utilizing all the resources which new instruments offer, as well as all the beautiful applications of the same which have been introduced by Meyerbeer and Berlioz principally, he has made every means gained by modern progress subservient to his end,—the tendency of which is, to secure, by a system more vast than Gluck's, and a principle more absolute than Weber's, the predominance of the dramatic sense, to which voice and orchestra were subjugated by both masters."

The above are high promises and claims. On further following the advocate, we shall gather that Herr Wagner's "vaster system" is a more complete abnegation of rhythmical melody than the advocate of 'Alceste' thought necessary,—and that his "more absolute principle" means more complicated orchestral resources, but a more fixed and formal employment of the same. Thus, in turn, we are invited to admire want of beauty and want of variety. Dr. Liszt boasts that in these two operas by Herr Wagner there is hardly a song or a theme that will bear detaching from its place,—he writes charmingly of impalpable rhythms, of vaporous melodies, of severer perfection. We observe, however, that while treating 'Lohengrin,' which he puts forth as Herr Wagner's most matured and triumphant example, he is reduced to give an analysis of the story in place of such analysis of musical structure as he affords us while speaking of the overture to the 'Tannhäuser.' The former, in short, is described as a rich and severe musical drama, in which the voices, emancipated from all previously accepted melodic trammels, are free to recite what the scene demands,—while the orchestra is left as the exponent of all those conventionalities which are so terrible to the transcendentalists. Now, as we last year remarked, "that the sonority of voices should be disregarded, while that of the instruments should be choicely watched,—that the singer should neither finish phrases nor bars, while the accompaniment *must* have both, else would Chaos come again,—is an inconsistency in defence of which no reason can be given,—save an apology for poverty in melody. In truth, when we turn to Herr Wagner's regular themes, cited by Dr. Liszt from the overture to the 'Tannhäuser'—phrases of a desperate aridity,—when we remember what passed for motivi in the composer's earlier opera of 'The Flying Dutchman,'—we can understand why, seeing that he writes "upon system" and that such are the best tunes which he can produce, any phrase in which the ear is appealed to by the recurrence of attractive sounds should be branded as meretricious or sensual. Nevertheless, rhythm and melody are still not proved to be incapable of bearing any weight of passion that the most severe dramalover may require. We imagine that no oftenfrequenter has ever found Gluck's 'O, malheureuse Iphigénie,' or Weber's great *soprano aria* from 'Der Freischütz,' or the *terzett* from Rossini's 'Guillaume Tell,' beneath the dignity, pathos, and excitement of their several situations, albeit they all contain first-class examples of improved or the purest symmetry and beauty.—Again, before we consent to abolish those horrible things, the accomplishments of vocal skill, Herr Wagner or Dr. Liszt must prove to us that the opening of the final duett in 'Otello' is made less fearfully-exciting because it offers to the *prima donna* a magnificent display of *gorgheggi*,—thus calling forth all her powers not only of passion but of art, in a crisis of the extremest frenzy. That the mathematical forms and devices of music have been abused and impoverished by the feeble and frivolous is true; —but Music, like Poetry, is an art of "numbers," and, like Painting, of adornment no less than of idea: — and unless these be assembled and employed, it degenerates into savagery,—the passion thereof is turned down into the wail of the rolian harp, plaintive, indeed, but saying nothing,—the joy into the cord of birds, sweet enough, but which has no articulate language.

These specialities and formalities, moreover, are owned by none more implicitly than by the Romanticists and their champions. Yet it is impossible utterly to efface the laws and forms of Music because she is to be dragged at the heels of the car of Drama, is most oddly proved by the very absolute principle by which Herr Wagner is claimed for Herr Wagner. Dr. Liszt lays great stress on his favourite's extraordinary merit in closely characterizing his personages, and also certain of their environments, by peculiar orchestral phrases, represented as often they appear, or as the influencing circumstances are mentioned.—Not forgetting such examples as Meyerbeer's *Marcel* and Weber's *Eglantine*, (where, indeed, the use of this characterizing is mechanical and constant,) we must maintain that this practice is a formalism no less formal than the old vocal formalities so harshly treated:—one betokening mengerness of invention and power of expression, but from character being marked thereby, it is confined within the limits of the old dramatic label which announced a miser as *Grispe* and a swash-buckler as *Strozzi*'s *A'.*,—whilst musical expression is reduced to the conventionalisms of *ballet* language in which eyes up-raised mean devotion and a hand on the heart stands for love. How did our Shakspeare work?—If his Dukes use catchwords (and even they use them but sparingly), his *Lears* and *Lady Macbeths* never do. His *Shylock* does not cross the stage perpetually saying "*I am a vindictive Jew.*" His Weird Sisters are not predicted.—The conception, which it might not be fair to apply to one who considered that Music was restrained in its powers and subject to laws of its own, may be justly adduced to confirm or to outbrand a writer, like Herr Wagner, who claims for his art liberty to go beyond all known boundaries, and equality as a medium of expression with Painting and Poetry. The older composers, who wrought under a narrower dispensation, could give colour to their creatures without sacrificing that variety which not only is the essence of natural humour, but gives its utmost charm to Art.—The *Ghost* in 'Don Giovanni' speaks regularly, but no more than two modulations,—Handel's *Iphis* in 'Jephtha'—perhaps the most delicately touched example of youth and innocence existing in music—is known from all other personages as often as she sings; yet without any cuckoo-note to tell of her virginity and her hard fate. We repeat that the new method, praised for its dramatic force and propriety, is essentially an artifice as mechanical after its kind as the old *cabaletta* and *cadenza* which drive the transcendental into fits; and we submit that mechanical transcendentalism is less worthy, because more pretending, than mechanical frivolity.

Such is our calm judgment on the two main points established by Dr. Liszt,—and not established, we think, to the favour of the new composer. Let us be thought ever so harsh or unwilling, we cannot consent to admire a school of Art in the productions of which any one element of perfection is left out; or in which any one material is so abused that some other material must be immoderately employed by way of counterbalance,—else would the statue not stand upright,—else would the building crumble—the poem pass off into a raving of unknown tongues—the picture melt away into a confused blot of colour.

SADLER'S WELLS.—On Friday week an opportunity was given to the young actor Mr. Robinson to exhibit the talents in the character of *Claude Melnotte*. There were, as matter of course, crudities in the performance of one so stage-inexperienced;—but that performance was full, nevertheless, of promise. Picturesque in deportment and pleasing in enunciation, well-educated and intelligent,—the personal appearance of Mr. Robinson is altogether in his favour. He won the plaudits of the house by the fervour of his style,—and certainly he acted better than part has his older predecessors. More than once he was honoured with a call before the curtain. No doubt remains that Mr. Robinson in juvenile characters is a great acquisition to the modern stage.

OLYMPIC.—On Monday, 'As You like It' was performed, with Miss Laura Keene as *Rosalind*. As an elegant impersonator of comic characters, the manner in which Miss Keene succeeded in this difficult part may be fairly have established her. For the more emphatic portions of the text we find that she still lacks power;—but for the general business marks of good training are decided, and in the lighter situations she was quite at home.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The short *interregnum* betwixt our spring and winter musical seasons, is all but at an end.—The first of the *Orchestral Concerts* in St. Martin's Hall will be held on Monday week. Besides the scarcity of good music during the period of the year which this series is purposed to occupy, the plan of the new Society, as was pointed out when we announced its formation, is eminently calculated to conciliate and attract all who have complained of the Philharmonic Concerts as a sort of "close borough," where only a few elect composers and artists ever get a hearing or receive fair justice. If there be any sincerity in the dissentients, and if these Orchestral Concerts at all keep the promise of their announcement, they should—and we hope they will—be fully supported.—Miss Dolby's agreeable *Soirées* for the performance of chamber music will commence, we perceive, on the 18th inst.

Mr. Charles Horsley has made considerable progress in a new Oratorio, on the story of 'Joseph.' This evidences a facility and enterprise worthy of all recognition in a day when so many who would fain be composers abstain from efforts to produce works of a high order because writing is not immediately profitable,—or who desire from some other equally prosaic motive to avoid the struggle which is part of every artist's training and experience. With facility and enterprise, however, should come self-mistrust:—let us hope that the latter has kept pace with the former. No listeners will welcome a really English Oratorio more cordially than ourselves.

Signor Schira is said to have been nominated Mr. Bunn's musical director for the coming season at Drury Lane.—Rumour mentions operas by Mr. Balfe and Mr. Benedict as works which probably may be performed. We believe that the former gentleman has long had in his hands a *libretto* by Mr. Bunn, identical in subject with that of Signor Verdi's 'Rigoletto'—founded on M. Victor Hugo's tragedy 'Le Roi s'amuse.'—A contemporary states that Mr. Bunn has been recently in Paris, endeavouring to engage Mdlle. Alboni. What service this lady could possibly do to his theatre—her standing in the Opera world considered—it is hard to divine.—There was some talk, awhile since, of the engagement of Madame

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Novello:—but without foundation, since that lady, we perceive, has left England to fulfil an engagement at Venice,—and will not return to us till after Easter next.

Having so often expressed our opinion of Signor Verdi as a composer, it is not necessary that we should do more than announce the performance of an English version of his best opera, 'Ernani,' at the Surrey Theatre. An original opera is "underlined" in the bills of the same establishment, concerning which we may have more to say.—Another new opera, by Mr. E. Fitzwilliam, is announced as being in preparation for the next Haymarket season.—Mr. Webster's first opera, however, we believe, will be Mr. Macfarren's 'Charles II.' In this most of the parts will be sustained by their original representatives.

We have tidings from St. Petersburgh that the sensation created there by the performance of Signor Ronconi in 'Maria di Rohan' has been something unprecedented. The part of the *prima donna* has been taken by Madame Medori, who last year belonged to an Italian opera company at Brussels.—Signora Borghi, a new *contralto*, has appeared, as promised, at Naples,—and is praised by some Italian journals as being a singer of superior quality.

His Majesty of Saxony is announced by the German papers to have annulled the sentence passed against Herr Wagner, the composer of 'Rienzi,' 'Lohengrin' and other operas, who, while *Kapellmeister* at Dresden took part in the German revolutions. We should be glad to hear of the same grace being extended to Herr Roeckel, the second *Kapellmeister*, who followed Herr Wagner's example — but is still, we read, in durance at Königstein on the Elbe.

A new play by Mr. Jerrold, and one by Mr. Marston, are in the hands of Mr. Kean, for early representation.

Among the novelties which have been accepted at the *Théâtre Français* are, 'Le Château de la Seiglière,' by M. Jules Sandeau,—'Romulus,' by M. A. Dumas,—'Misanthrope et Repentir,' a new translation by M. Gérard de Nerval, in which Mdlle. Rachel will appear,—a five-act play, by M. Augier, — a drama by Mr. Vacquerie. — 'Le Sage et le Fou,' by M. Méry,—'La Fille qui cherche,' by M. Mallefille, — 'Corilla,' by M. Francis Wey, &c. &c.

MISCELLANEA

The Houses of Parliament.—The roof of the new House of Commons is to be retained as it is in its improved state; but the benches and other furniture of the body of the chamber are undergoing considerable alterations. The reporters' and strangers' galleries are also to be altered; and when the alterations are completed, the House will present a much more agreeable appearance than it did at the end of last session. The yards and sheds, in the immediate neighbourhood of the House, in which the masons worked, in New Palace-yard are about to be removed, and are to be reconstructed on an abutment close to Westminster-bridge, where piles have been sunk; and a platform is in the course of formation for the workmen's sheds being built upon it. Since the sale of the materials of the old House of Commons and House of Lords the new buildings have presented a very unsightly appearance; but now that the old buildings are almost entirely removed, the beauty of the new buildings has become apparent. The new window constructed at the western end of Westminster-hall is now shown to great advantage, and attracts general attention from its architectural beauty. The main entrance to either house of Parliament is to be through Westminster-hall;—the Peers and Commoners passing from Westminster-hall along the corridor leading to the centre of the building—the Peers turning to the right, and the Commoners to the left.—*Times.*

Heyescine.—In your No. for November 1—review of the Catalogue of the Great Exhibition—there is a paragraph relative to the hydro-borate of lime, which is also called Heyescine. Its existence was first made out by a friend of mine who has resided many years in the province of Tarapaca, Peru, and who lately has sent to me a parcel of it from thence. I am led to believe that this curious saline body may be procured in some quantity; and accordingly I have lately written to my friend to import into this country as much as he can of it, feeling assured that this particular salt of borax may be most usefully employed in the arts—particularly in glass making. I hope shortly to have some details relative to the salts of borax as found in the desert plains of Peru, when I will do myself the pleasure of again communicating with you.—I am, &c. W. Bollaert.

St. Peter's Alley, Cornhill.

P.S. In my paper to the Geographical Society on 'Southern Peru,' read a few months since, I have alluded to the salts of borax as existing in the Pampa of Tamarugal in company with large deposits of nitrate of soda and other saline bodies.

Museum of Economic Botany.—A museum of this kind is in course of collection at the Kew Gardens. The object is, to bring together such products from all parts of the world as cannot be shown in the living plants of a garden, nor in the preserved ones of a herbarium. In this way it is intended to collect and arrange in the new museum such fruits and seeds as are deserving of notice, especially those which are of large size, or possess any peculiarity of form or structure. All flowers and plants which, from their make, are unsuited to the *Hortus Siccus*, and which may require preservation in spirits or acids, specimens of woods used in commerce, or which would appear to be deserving of notice from their beauty, hardness, &c., will come within the range of the collection. In the same way will be added gums and resins,—especially those employed in the arts or in domestic economy; also dye stuffs, of which very few are as yet known to science; also the medicinal substances which, in the various shapes of seeds, leaves, gums, oils, roots, &c., exist in unknown extent throughout the East. Active steps are being taken by the Colonial authorities to secure the co-operation of governors of colonies, managers of botanic gardens abroad, travellers, merchants, and others. Parcels or packages will be brought from abroad free of charge by any of Her Majesty's ships, or by the royal mail vessels, or Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers.—*Inquirer.*

Institute of Fine Arts for Glasgow.—*The Builder* says:—"It is proposed to erect Exhibition Rooms in George Square, and to establish periodical Exhibitions of ancient and modern Art. Plans and drawings of the proposed building have been exhibited in the council chamber."

Professor Gorini.—This gentleman, who is professor of natural history at the University of Lodi, made recently before a circle of private friends, a remarkable experiment illustrative of his theory as to the formation of mountains. He melts some substances, known only to himself, in a vessel, and allows the liquid to cool. At first it presents an even surface; but a portion continues to ooze up from beneath, and gradually elevations are formed, until at length ranges and chains of hills are formed, exactly corresponding in shape with those which are found on the earth. Even to the stratification the resemblance is complete, and M. Gorini can produce on a small scale the phenomena of volcanoes and earthquakes. He contends, therefore, that the inequalities on the face of the globe are the result of certain materials, first reduced by the application of heat to a liquid state, and then allowed gradually to consolidate.—In another and more practically useful field of research the learned professor has developed some very important facts. He has succeeded to a most surprising extent in preserving animal matter from decay without resorting to any known process for that purpose. Specimens are shown by him of portions of the human body which, without any alteration in their natural appearance, have been exposed to the action of the atmosphere for six and seven years; and he states that at a trifling cost he can keep meat for any length of time in such a way that it can be eaten quite fresh. The importance of such a discovery, if on practical investigation it is found to answer, will be more readily understood when it is remembered that the flocks of sheep in Australia are boiled down into tallow, their flesh being otherwise almost valueless, and that in South America vast herds of cattle are annually slaughtered for the sake of their hides alone.—*Times.*

To Correspondents.—S.—Δίκη—G. W.—received.
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Age when Policy was issued.	Date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Reduced Annual Premium for the current year.
20	On or before 14th May, 1846.	£1,000	£19 6 8	£10 [illegible]
30		1,000	24 5 4	13 [illegible]
40		1,000	31 10 0	17 [illegible]
50		1,000	42 15 0	23 [illegible]
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Date of Insurance.	Amount Assured.	Date of Death.	Amount paid under the Policy, including Bonus Additions.
1820	£1,000 0 0	1847	£1,681 1 11
1819	1,000 0 0	1849	1,617 16 10
1824	1,000 0 0	1848	1,342 17 0
1820	1,200 0 0	1850	2,100 10 8
1828	499 10 0	1851	651 1 11
1844	499 10 0	1850	371 18 10

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Calendar, Horticultural
Charcoal, peat
Cinerarias, culture of
Cryptomeria japonica
Crystal Palace, trees in
Cucumber disease
Cucumbers, soil for
Emigration, Irish
Farming, small, system of
Fern, lace, by Mr. Lee
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Forest trees, to prune
Garden, kitchen, to crop, by Mr. Steel
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Grape mildew (with Engraving)
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Kitchen Garden, to crop, by Mr. Steel
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Manure, bones as
Manure, pinguedo, by Mr. Hopkins
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Stocks, to sow
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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1851.

REVIEWS

The History of the United States of America. By Richard Hildreth. Vols. IV. and V. New York, Harper & Brothers; London, Low.

THESE two volumes—which are a continuation of three previously published by Mr. Hildreth, and reviewed by us at the time of their publication [*Athen.* No. 1158]—treat of that period of American history which must always be necessarily the most interesting to the student and the philosopher. The first—or Vol. IV. of the series—treats of the administration of Washington, and comes down from the year 1788 to the year 1797; the second—Vol. V.—discusses the Presidencies of John Adams and Jefferson, and comes down from the year 1797 to the year 1807. The two volumes, therefore, contain the record and the philosophy, according to Mr. Hildreth's ability, of the foundation and consolidation of the great American Republic:—its early political distractions, its dangers, its efforts, its characteristic faults and merits at the outset, and its final success.

A vivid and spirited narrative, or a truly scientific history of this period of the career of the people of the United States, would certainly be a welcome contribution to English literature. We cannot say that Mr. Hildreth's two bulky volumes are either the one or the other. While they present, and even in an increased degree, the good qualities of the volumes which preceded them — fulness, conscientiousness, and accuracy of detail,—they exhibit in quite an equal degree the faults which we complained of in their predecessors—dryness, insipidity, want of power to arrest the reader's attention or stir his feelings, and absence of scientific breadth and generality. It is positively a matter of surprise to us how Mr. Hildreth could go over a period of history so abounding in notable men and incidents, with such fidelity to all the minutiæ which make up their series, and yet with such absolute incapacity to convey any strong interest in them to his readers—such imperturbable apathy with regard to every person, place, or thing named or referred to. Here is a work treating—and treating with laborious and scrupulous amplitude—of the lives and actions of Washington, Jefferson, Adams, Hamilton, and their American coevals—men, surely, whose lineaments are worthy of being scanned and remembered by every member of the Anglo-Saxon race, as well as by many who do not belong to that race,—and yet the execution of the work is so dull, stolid, and jejune, that the most wakeful reader will hardly be able to keep himself from falling asleep while perusing it. In the Preface to the fourth volume the author observes, that "the nature of the subject must necessarily give to some portions of the work somewhat more of an emotional character than was consistent with the multiplicity and rapid succession of events in the former volumes:"—and adds, that "very likely the charge of partizanship may now be urged by some of those same critics who thought those volumes too apathetic and coldly impartial." The remark might have been spared. The charge of partizanship we care not particularly to bring forward; but we find not one trait of that "emotional character" of which Mr. Hildreth desires thus apologetically to apprise us. Were he making out an inventory of goods for a sale, or copying a lexicon, Mr. Hildreth could not be more unemotional. And it is time that this plea of impartiality should be estimated at its real worth when it is alleged as a justification for apathy such as Mr. Hildreth's. To be uninteresting, and to allege impartiality as the reason for this, is, strictly considered, a mere covering of a conscious defect under an excuse that seems plausible. An author might easily be far more impartial than Mr. Hildreth, and yet fifty times more interesting. That a history should he *interesting*, whatever else it is, ought to be laid down as absolutely essential:—posterity, according to the saying of Kant, extricating themselves from the accumulation of circumstantial histories by refusing to remember the past unless from that point of view in which it concerns themselves. This interest may be attained either by the vivacity and picturesqueness of the narrative, or by the philosophic unity of purpose which may be made to pervade the whole. In a History of the United States, perhaps the latter species of interest is the more easy to be attained and the more desirable,—the facts which compose that history being precisely of the kind which it requires a mind of scientific generality to group and give a powerful meaning to. American history, in fact, ought to be written in the spirit of social philosophy:—it ought to be viewed both by writer and by reader less as the epic of the fortunes of a special nation (in any case the epic element is but small) than as an illustration on a large scale of the doctrines of political science. But as Mr. Hildreth's work is deficient in the one species of interest, so it is deficient in the other. For philosophic views of the political progress of America, and of the function of the American race in human civilization, we must go to such writers as De Tocqueville, — not to Mr. Hildreth, whose work may be described rather as a laborious *résumé* of the minutes of the meetings of Congress than as a history of what the great American people did, thought and said, from 1788 to 1807.

One of the best portions of the volumes before us is, the sketch with which the first of them opens of the rise and early opposition of the two great parties which have ever divided the field of American politics—the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists.—

"The whole people of the United States, on the question of ratifying or rejecting the Federal Constitution, had been suddenly arranged, for the first time, into two definite and well-marked political parties. Into this new array of national politics were speedily absorbed all the various local parties by which, since the conclusion of the Revolutionary struggle, the states had all been more or less agitated, some of them even to the pitch of insurrection and civil war. In most of the towns and cities, the seats of trade and mechanical industry, the friends of the new Constitution formed a very decided majority. Much was hoped from the organization of a vigorous national government, and the exercise of the extensive powers vested in it for the regulation of commerce. Boston, Baltimore, and Charleston celebrated in turn, and with no little pomp, the acceptance of the new system by the states to which they belonged. The ratification of the Federal Constitution by ten State Conventions, at the dates and by the majorities expressed in the following table—

1787,	Dec. 3, Delaware	unanimously
	Dec. 13, Pennsylvania	46 to 23
	Dec. 19, New Jersey	unanimously
1788,	Jan. 2, Georgia	unanimously
	Jan. 9, Connecticut	128 to 40
	Feb. 6, Massachusetts	187 to 168
	April 28, Maryland	63 to 12
	May 23, South Carolina	149 to 73
	June 21, New Hampshire ..	57 to 46
	June 25, Virginia	89 to 79

having made it certain that the new government would go into operation, the approaching anniversary of the national independence was selected in Philadelphia for duly celebrating an event in which that city felt indeed a peculiar interest, because it looked forward to becoming the national capital. * * The friends of the new Constitution, taking for themselves the title of Federalists, bestowed that of anti-Federalists on their opponents. Those opponents insisted, however, that these names, if interchanged, would have been much more appropriately applied. The new Constitution, aiming, as it did, at a self-sustaining national government, was, they insisted, something more than federal, and its supporters, therefore, more than Federalists—a name which might, with more justice, have been given to those who preferred a really federal compact. The name of anti-Federalists would seem to imply opposition to the union of the states; but by most of that party any such imputation was very warmly disclaimed. So far from being opposed to the Union, they declared themselves willing to make great sacrifices to maintain it. Notwithstanding the slight ebullitions of feeling already noticed—so slight that history has almost forgotten to record them, but important as showing the actual state of the public mind—no disposition was anywhere evinced to resist the will of the majority as declared in legal form. In all the ratifying states the anti-Federalists expressed their readiness to aid, in good faith, in putting the new system into operation. But they insisted with great vehemence on the absolute necessity of immediate amendments, which had, indeed, been recommended by four out of the ten ratifying conventions, or five out of eleven, counting New York."

The accounts given by Mr. Hildreth of the early debates in Congress on the subject of slavery and the slave-trade are worthy of attention; but they are all of too great length to be quoted here. For a similar reason, we must abstain from quoting from the portion of the volumes before us which, on the whole, we have found least liable to the objection of want of interest:—that in which a detailed account is given of the negotiations with France in which the United States became involved after the convulsion of the European Continent by the French Revolution. As it will be but fair to Mr. Hildreth to quote a passage of some length where from the nature of the subject he may be supposed to have done his best,—we select the following attempt at a portraiture of the three most conspicuous statesmen, after Washington, in the early history of the American Republic:—Jefferson, John Adams, and Hamilton.—

"Gifted by nature with a penetrating understanding, a lively fancy, and sensibilities quick and warm; endowed with powers of pleasing, joined to a desire to please, which made him, in the private circle, when surrounded by friends and admirers, one of the most agreeable of men; exceedingly anxious to make a figure, yet far more desirous of applause than of power; fond of hypothesis, inclined to dogmatize, little disposed to argument or controversy, impatient of opposition, seeing everything so highly coloured by his feelings as to be quite incapable of candour or justice toward those who differed from him; adroit, supple, insinuating, and, where he had an object to accomplish, understanding well how to flatter and to captivate; led by the warmth of his feelings to lay himself open to his friends, but toward the world at large cautious and shy; cast, both as to intellect and temperament, in a mould rather feminine than masculine, Jefferson had returned from France, strengthened and confirmed by his residence and associations there in those theoretical ideas of liberty and equality to which he had given utterance in the Declaration of Independence. During his residence in Europe, as well as pending the Revolutionary struggle, Jefferson's attention seems to have been almost exclusively directed toward abuses of power. Hence his political philosophy was almost entirely negative—its sum total seeming to be the reduction of the exercise of authority within the narrowest possible limits, even at the risk of depriving government of its ability for good as well as for evil; a theory extremely well suited to place him at the head of those who, for various reasons, wished to restrict, as far as might be, the authority of the new general government. Though himself separated from the mass of the people by elegance of manners, refined tastes, and especially by philosophical opinions on the subject of religion, in political affairs Jefferson was disposed to allow a controlling, indeed absolute, authority to the popular judgment. The many he thought to be always more

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honest and disinterested, and, in questions where the public interests were concerned, more wise than the few, who might always be suspected of having private purposes of their own to serve. Hence he was ever ready to allow even his most cherished theoretical principles to drop into silence the moment he found them in conflict with the popular current. To sympathize with popular passions seemed to be his test of patriotism; to sail before the wind as a popular favourite, the great object of his ambition; and it was under the character of a condescending friend of the people that he rose first to be the head of a party, and then the chief magistrate of the nation. The two men who stood most immediately and obviously in Jefferson's way were John Adams, the vice-president, and Hamilton, the Secretary of the Treasury; men in character, temperament, and opinions as different from him as they were from each other. By dint of untiring energy, seconded by great natural abilities, and an unextinguishable thirst for eminence which brooked no superior and hardly an equal, Adams had risen from the condition of a country lawyer, the son of a poor farmer and mechanic, through various grades of public service, to the eminence which he now held. Nor did his aspirations stop short of the highest distinction in the power of the nation to bestow. Having risen by no paltry arts of popularity or intrigue, for which he was but little fitted, nor by any captivating charm of personal manners, which he was very far from possessing, but owing everything to the respect which his powerful talents, his unwearied labours, and his great public services had inspired, he still desired to be what he always had been, a leader rather than a follower,—rather to guide public opinion than merely to sail before it. He, too, had his political theories, very different from those of Jefferson—theories which he had not hesitated to set forth with a frankness very dangerous to his popularity. Alarmed at the levelling principles, as he esteemed them, to which the progress of the French Revolution had given rise, he had lately published, in Fenno's United States Gazette, a series of 'Discourses on Davila,' in which his political views were enforced and explained, not a little to the disgust of Jefferson and others, who professed peculiar regard for popular rights. Taking the history of nations, particularly Davila's account of the French civil wars, and the aspect of society, as his text, Adams pointed out as the great spring of human activity, at least in all that related to politics, the love of superiority, the desire of distinction, admiration and applause. Hence, in all societies, perpetual struggles for power. Nor, in his opinion, could any form of government be permanent or secure which did not provide as well for the reasonable gratification as for the due restraint of this powerful passion. As a means toward gratifying it in a harmless way, Adams was inclined to favour a liberal use of titles of honour and other ceremonious distinctions; and on this same ground he vindicated the institution of a senate, seats in which might serve as a legitimate object of ambition to the rich and well-born. To counteract the encroachments of this aristocratical body, a popular assembly on the broadest basis would be necessary; and, to hold the balance between the two, and to prevent the one from gradually encroaching upon and ultimately annihilating the other, a powerful executive. Only by means of such an equilibrium of authority, as it seemed to him, could liberty be secure; and in establishing and maintaining such a balance consisted the great art and science of government. Whether the frequent elections of governors and senators, adopted under the American Constitutions, would not rather serve as an avenue to corruption instead of excluding it, as the theory was, Adams seemed greatly to doubt, and to incline to the opinion that the time would come when hereditary descent would be regarded as less an evil than annual fraud, if not violence also. Even in New England, as he pointed out, communities and governments the most democratic in the world, the influence of family and the claim to hereditary respect had been recognized in the political honours freely bestowed by annual election, through successive generations, on members of a few distinguished families, to which the higher offices had been chiefly restricted. On the basis of these principles Adams had concluded that the new French Constitution, which disavowed all distinctions of rank, which vested the legislative authority in a single assembly, and which, though retaining the office of king, stripped it of a large portion of its power, could not be lasting. As to Paine's 'Rights of Man,' an American edition of the first part of which had just been published, prefaced by a very complimentary note from Jefferson, not without an evident slur at the political heresies of the 'Discourses on Davila,' Adams declared that he held that pamphlet in utter detestation. Nor was it long before a criticism upon it, under the signature of 'Publicola,' made its appearance in a Boston paper, written by John Quincy Adams, son of the vice-president, but which rumour ascribed to the vice-president himself. In the promising talents of that son, in energy and labour not inferior to his father, though in some other respects much below him, Adams could hardly fail to see additional ground for his idea, that hereditary distinctions were but in conformity to the order of nature. In this theory of politics Adams seems entirely to have overlooked one most important consideration. If the love of superiority and distinction leads to the institution of ranks and orders, that very same sentiment diffusing itself through the mass of the people produces impatience of the superiority of others, and a disinclination to submit to that inferiority which the existence of ranks and orders implies. Hence it would seem to follow that, in a country like America, where the sentiment of political equality was so widely diffused, anything approaching to a distinction of ranks was quite out of the question, democratical equality being, in fact, only a further developement of the effects of that very same sentiment out of which aristocratical distinctions originally grow. Much less of a scholar or a speculatist than either Jefferson or Adams, but a very sagacious observer of mankind, and possessed of practical talents of the highest order, Hamilton's theory of government seems to have been almost entirely founded on what had passed under his own observation during the war of the Revolution and subsequently, previous to the adoption of the new Constitution. As Washington's confidential aide-de-camp, and as a member of the Continental Congress after the peace, he had become very strongly impressed with the impossibility of duly providing for the public good, especially in times of war and danger, except by a government invested with ample powers, and possessing means for putting those powers into vigorous exercise. To give due strength to a government it was necessary, in his opinion, not only to invest it on paper with sufficient legal authority, but to attach the most wealthy and influential part of the community to it by the ties of personal and pecuniary advantage; for, though himself remarkably disinterested, acting under an exalted sense of personal honour and patriotic duty, Hamilton was inclined, like many other men of the world, to ascribe to motives of pecuniary and personal interest a somewhat greater influence over the course of events than they actually possess. Having but little confidence either in the virtue or the judgment of the mass of mankind, he thought the administration of affairs most safe in the hands of a select few; nor in private conversation did he disguise his opinion, that to save her liberties from foreign attack or intestine commotions, America might yet be driven into serious alterations of her Constitution, giving to it more of a monarchical and aristocratical cast. He had the sagacity to perceive, what subsequent experience has abundantly confirmed, that the Union had rather to dread resistance of the States to federal power than executive usurpation; but he was certainly mistaken in supposing that a president and senate for life or good behaviour, such as he had suggested in the Federal Convention, could have given any additional strength to the government. That strength, under all elective systems, must depend on public confidence; and public confidence is best tested and secured by frequent appeals to the popular vote."

This single extract, which we believe to be the most careful and significant that could be taken from the whole book, will give an idea both of Mr. Hildreth's best style and of the spirit in which he personally regards the history of his country. On this latter point, we have to object that Jefferson—a man of remarkable powers, and whose spirit has more intimately transferred itself into the heart and hereditary sentiment of the American people than that of perhaps any other American, not perhaps excepting even Washington—does not seem to have received a full enough measure of that appreciation which even Mr. Hildreth might have been able to give him. Jefferson we regard as the type and father of much that is now most characteristic in the American mind; and in any history of the United States he ought to figure largely.

In conclusion, and without multiplying extracts, we have to repeat that Mr. Hildreth's work is, in its kind, a most conscientious and laborious undertaking,—as an accumulation of particulars and a register of debates unrivalled,—and therefore extremely valuable to all who wish to prosecute minute researches into the history of the Union or of the several States composing it:—but that, for a book possessing these merits, it has small claim indeed to be regarded as a good and readable history.

Visiting my Relations, and its Results; a Series of Small Episodes in the Life of a Recluse. Pickering.

This book does not aspire to charm by the story — or rather series of sketches — which its pages unfold;—and its style is singularly devoid of all those devices to captivate and to excite which belong to fine writing. Yet we have not lately read a volume of its kind with greater relish. Calm sense, quiet humour, and nice perception of character distinguish it in no common measure. If its author thinks more of his conversations than of his incidents, he has studied human weakness and inconsistency without being soured by the sight; and, without arrogance or offence, he is not afraid of confronting some of the most popular affectations of the day, literary and philanthropic.—The imaginary "Recluse" is an old bachelor, who, being drawn from his retreat in Northumberland, pays a round of visits to distant relations and old friends. He begins his circuit with a showy, sanguine, scheming nephew, blest with a wife all sweetness, whose hollow unreality is touched with a hand of good-humoured ridicule.—Thence he passes to the household of an old friend, where the "better half" is too real a lady,—has only too much heart and sympathy, and conscience and anxiety,—frets herself about her duties and her trials, and her fears and her feelings, till few within the sphere of her presence can escape being fretted by contact, if not by sympathy. While he is the inmate of the Seymours, our Bachelor Recluse is led to recall the story of his own young love and its failure. This is little less true and saddening than Miss Edgeworth's 'Modern Griselda.'—The next slide in the magic lantern shows our Recluse among the humanitarians, in company with a Mr. Grey, described as under.—

"I had known him at college, where he distinguished himself a great deal more by his eccentricities than by his habits of study. He came late to the University;—having been previously engaged in business, for which he was designed and educated, but which he abandoned with a view to read for orders, intending, most probably, to sway the ecclesiastical world as an archbishop. But there were too many candidates in that line, to hold out much prospect of success; and having done little else than lose both time and money, he quitted college, and devoted himself to a variety of projects for regenerating the world; as a fit preparation for which, he spent two or three years abroad with Pestalozzi;—from thence, he migrated to America, and having looked after modes of education there,—he was now returned to devote himself, as far as I could gather, to his wonted purpose of reforming mankind. This was a design he had taken in hand when I first became acquainted with him; and many were the

crotchets that occupied his imagination on this subject, during his residence in college."

Mr. Grey's pet crotchet at the moment of encounter was, a new educational establishment, of which the following was the prospectus.—

"At Sedley House,

"Near M——, in Surrey,

"Mr. and Mrs. Neale beg to announce, that they receive individuals of all ages, and both sexes, to board and educate; devoting themselves, with the assistance of properly qualified instructors, to the developement in their pupils of the highest perfection both of mind and body of which they may be susceptible. Proceeding on the principle that there is a divine germ to be elicited from the soul by the culture of Love, and perfect health from the corporeal frame by the pursuit of a pure and simple diet, the most delicate attention towards the former on the part of philosophical minds, and a strictly vegetarian regimen as it respects the latter, will be the leading features in their scholastic administration. The fine arts of poetry, painting and music will claim pre-eminent attention; while the abstruser subjects of the mathematics, algebra, geometry, and the dead languages, will not be forgotten. In a scheme which is based solely upon the principle of universal love and harmony, it is almost needless to have to recur to pecuniary points. In the present stage of human affairs, it seems, however, indispensable to be furnished with means of that description. It may suffice to say, that no terms sufficiently remunerative will be refused; and it is left, therefore, an open question, to be determined by the ability of parties themselves, as to what will constitute the annual payment of respective pupils. Further particulars may be obtained on application to J. Grey, Esq., No. —, Carey St., Lincoln's Inn Fields; by whom, any aid to the work, in the form of pecuniary contributions, will be thankfully received."

Our Recluse's tea-drinking with Mr. Grey's colloborators, and his subsequent visit to Sedley House, are told with a humour which in its fairness and fineness recalls to us Mr. Peacock's manner of dealing with systems. The following little scene whimsically closes Mr. Middleton's visit to this vegetarian Paradise under the law of love.—

"After sauntering up and down fer about a quarter of an hour, I perceived the two little Dobson boys within a few yards of me, very busily engaged in heaping mould into bits of broken flower-pots, and arranging them in an orderly way on the gravel walk, after the fashion of dishes at a dinner table. I were so engrossed that they took no notice of me; and I heard one say to the other, 'This is a leg of pork.'—'And this is sausages,' was the reply.—'And this is a ham.'—'And this is a leg of mutton.' —'And this is roast pig.'—'What have you got there?' said I, coming close to them. 'Any thing for me?' They looked shy at first, but after a few kindly words, I succeeded in drawing them into conversation. 'I dare say you are very happy here,' said I.—'I am not happy at all,' replied one of the boys —'Nor I neither,' said the other.—'What, not with these beautiful grounds to play in?'—'No; I want something nice to eat.'—'What do you call nice?' —'Potatoes are nice.'—'And so are saveloys,' said the other.—'What would you do more, if I were to give you a shilling a piece?'—'My! wouldn't I have a fee?' I'd have a mutton pie, and —' I'd have sausage rolls,' interrupted the other, 'and ham, and —' I didn't stay to hear the rest of the catalogue of anticipated dainties, but leaving them the donation with as much satisfaction as I ever experienced in the expenditure of two shillings, I returned to the house to seek my comrade, whom I new hoped to find inclined to depart."

The last experiment made by our Recluse is in the family of a niece, who believes herself, and is believed, to be "serious" in the common (not always, however, the common-sense) acceptation of that adjective. Here, again, the anatomist is alike firm, temperate and benevolent,—with the candour of conscientious liberality and the judgment of a true artist, abstaining from anything like caricature or injurious epithet. Not, however, intending to make any extracts from this portion of the 'Episodes,' we must here bring our notice to a close. Too many pretences are, one after another, quietly disposed of in this chronicle for us to expect for it an enthusiastic reception. Nor do we pretend to agree with all its writer's reasonings and conclusions. But it is a book from which every one who reads to an end can hardly fail to derive benefit, support, and hope, — as from a counsellor philosophical without pedantry and religious without bigotry or bitterness.

The Literature and the Literary Men of Great Britain and Ireland. By Abraham Mills, A.M. 2 vols. New York, Harper Brothers; London, Low.

For a complete description of the subject of these two volumes twenty would hardly suffice. They attempt no less than a review of the whole authorship of these islands, from the first dawn of English down to the close of the eighteenth century; and this not in general outlines, but with a several notice of each conspicuous writer throughout that long period. The task thus treated, in any limited compass, can at best amount to little more than a biographical dictionary, disposed in the order of time, instead of an alphabetic arrangement—and the result in the present case is not quite the best that might have been attained. Mr. Mills's method may have suited his original purpose, — the production, namely, of a series of lectures, in which probably little more was required than a cursory view of the whole subject. But it is too superficial to give the book in which they now appear more than a qualified value as a literary treatise.

His manner of proceeding is generally as follows:—Beginning with the earliest writings in English, after a short preamble, he marshals his authors by certain divisions of time; which afterwards, on arriving at the richer periods, are again subdivided among the principal branches of composition. At times, on reaching some important point,—as the preaching of Wicliffe, Reformation, the Elizabethan stage, &c.—the list of names is introduced by a short general summary; but the substance of the work throughout is the special enumeration of all authors in successive notices. Dates and other biographical matter being first set down, the writer's productions are briefly named, with a description of their qualities, too scanty for any critical purpose. After this an extract or two is produced, of a kind convenient for recitation. This done, the lecturer goes on to the next in succession, without further comment. On some eminent names—such as Chaucer, Shakspeare, or Milton—more space and attention are bestowed; but the descriptions of these even cannot be termed either full or characteristic as literary portraits. Considerable pains have been taken in gathering materials from various available sources; by which the author says he has been enlarging and verifying his lectures during their successive repetition for the last twenty years. His data, as to matters of fact, may, with some exceptions, be accurate enough. But his power of giving a lively view of these or of the more genial part of his subject does not equal his industry; and the effect of the several essays, as now read in sequence, is, on the whole, both dry and fragmentary. Of this result a part may fairly be ascribed to the nature of his plan; in which completeness in certain respects could be attained within a compass of forty-six lectures only by a sacrifice of the more material requisite of proportion. Where all must be named in so rapid a course, not only is the space for the superior few inevitably narrowed by the crowd of minor figures, —but with all the bare historic notices exhaust most of the space that can be given to any. Nor is this disadvantage here relieved by anything very pregnant or sensitive in the original remarks which room was left to introduce. Mr. Mills writes in a sedate and rather verbose manner, without betraying much warmth even on occasions of the rarest kind. In the discrimination of particular beauties or defects, he seems to be content with a few cursory or received phrases; and he makes no sufficient attempt to indicate broader characteristics or essential features, either of individual authors or in great literary schools or periods. Nicer questions of literary history are either unmoubed, or taken as settled and treated as certainties without further hesitation. To this random process, curiously enough, the first and last of Mr. Mills's authors—Ossian and Junius—are alike peremptorily subjected. Ossian is placed, in the fourth century, as a real personage, "according to Blair and Kames,"—Mr. Mills declaring that he will not "concern himself with perplexed questions." As to Junius, he "assumes" that "the mystery is revealed," and thereupon treats him as identical with Francis. "The question," he says, "does not affect the literary character of *the* work." But it is of some consequence, one would think, to the character of a work treating of the "literary men of Great Britain" as well as of its literature, that authors should not be "assumed," or works assigned, except upon sufficient evidence.

To this must be added another defect, most likely caused by a temptation from which lecturers rarely escape. The power of recited verse being much greater over miscellaneous audiences than that of the best examples of prose, while specimens of the one also suffer less in extract than the other, it is difficult to avoid bringing poetry into the foreground on all occasions,—with a view rather to success in the delivery than to the relative demands of the subject. This, at all events, from whatever cause, is a visible fault in Mr. Mills's lectures. Of authors practised in both styles, the metrical pieces always obtain the chief—often the only—place. In some cases—as for instance, in regard to Swift, a writer, who owes remembrance wholly to his prose works,—the latter are slurred over with undeserved neglect, while the hearer's attention is called to his insignificant labours in the poetical field. Where, like Goldsmith, the writer excels in both, he is apt to be treated with partiality of the same kind, though not quite so perverse as in the other case. Eminent authors who have not written verses are apt to be passed over with more haste than is becoming; — and nothing like equal justice is done to the names of Raleigh, Browne, Fielding, Smollett, Walpole, Johnson and Burke. Exclusive of mere biographical matter, the notices of these great writers bear no proportion at all to their merits or relative station in letters, —while nearly as much attention is paid to third-rate figures, and even more to some dissenting theologians whose writings can hardly be said to belong to literature in any sense deserving a place here.

For this and other reasons, it must be said that although Mr. Mills has drawn up a copious, if not quite complete, list of authors, and of these has collected a number of details with laudable industry,—his work cannot be described as a sufficient account of the "literature and literary men of Great Britain and Ireland." It will afford the student but little aid towards forming a comprehensive general view of this ample subject: and its separate notices will not teach him what it is of most consequence to know of the several authors which it enumerates.—As a book for superficial reference on

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certain points it may be serviceable: but this kind of service has only a limited value.

The author's style, habitually stiff, is at times ungraceful:—as in this extract (from the passage on Chaucer).—

"He was invited to leave his *prospective* profession, and enter into the service of the king. Assenting without hesitation to this proposition, Edward the Third at once appointed him one of his pages. * * From the office of king's page, Chaucer was *elevated to the position of* gentleman of the king's privy chamber. * * *From the position* of 'gentleman,' &c. &c. he *became* shield-bearer to his majesty, and in that capacity attended the king during his celebrated invasion of France, *which terminated in the prostration of that nation* by the victory obtained upon the hill of Cressy." &c.

The introduction of some American solecisms in spelling, which have been noticed in former arrivals from New York—such as "luster," "center,"—errors such as *iteniary* for "itinerary," and *Lucastra* explained as *lux castra*, in naming Lovelace's poetry—may pass for mere printer's mistakes. In a professed lecturer on English literature, they would be more unseemly than in merely uneducated writers of the Western world:—whose innovations can have no influence in perverting the standard of elegant letters.

The Ansayrii, or Assassins; with Travels in the further East in 1850-51. *Including a Visit to Nineveh.* By Lieut. the Hon. F. Walpole. 3 vols. Bentley.

Marco Polo, the old traveller, gives a romantic account of the followers of Hassan ben Sabah, known in European history under the name of Assassins,—of their mountain home at Alamoot,—and of the means by which they were wrought on by their chief to the perpetration of their terrible crimes. He describes one of the devotees of this strange sect, who had been selected by the Sheikh al Jebel for a dangerous mission, being carried, while under the influence of a powerful opiate, to the gardens of Alamoot, where, on awaking, he found himself surrounded by every luxury that could excite and gratify the human senses,—and was then told that this was but a foretaste of the bliss secured to all who sought death in the service of his lord. This sect was at one time spread over half the Islam world. The sheikh established a branch of his power in the mountains of Lebanon; and for more than a century and a half the repose of the greatest princes in Europe and in Asia was disturbed by incessant fears of poison and the dagger. But the time of retribution came. The Mongol conquerors rooted the sect out of Persia:—fourteen years later, they were subdued in Syria by the Mameluke Sultan of Egypt. A remnant, as is generally supposed, survived this terrible chastisement,—taking refuge in the wild ranges and recesses of the mountains, where they have continued to reside apart from all the other sects and populations of Syria, hating all and hated by all, Jew, Greek, Catholic, and Mohammedan, down to our own time.

Certain it is, that up in the northern spurs of Lebanon there dwells a people, known as the Ansayrii, whose tenets resemble in some respects those of the Assassins. Of this people—and of the tract of country which they occupy—little is known in Europe. Our best maps are there left blank,—our most adventurous travellers tell as little of that region. The Turks themselves, sovereigns of the country, seldom or never venture into it. In ancient times, the inhabitants called themselves the children of Ishmael; and the old announcement that the hand of the son of that chief should be against every man, and every man's hand against him, has been literally fulfilled in regard to the Ansayrii. Their district is consequently virgin ground for the adventurous tourist. Books will tell a man little or nothing of the country,—road-books, maps, and traveller's companions there are none. Even Burckhardt stayed but one night in an Ansayrii village. Nearly all that Pococke could learn about the people was, that they drank good wine. Mr. Walpole has consequently a novel and curious theme on which to employ his narrative powers;—and he brings to it, let us add, a riper mind and steadier hand than he displayed in his 'Four Years in the Pacific' [see *Athen.* No. 1139].

At the end of his second volume,—which, as well as its predecessor, we may dismiss at once with the single remark that the ground travelled over—Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, and the southern shore of the Black Sea—have been often travelled before, and more adequately described,—Mr. Walpole found himself at Beyroot, with time on his hands and money in his pocket, literally without an object. Looking at the map for a new route, his eye fell, as he tells us in his preface, on the blank between Safyta and Nahr el Kebir;—and he determined to penetrate that unknown region, and try to resolve "the Asian Mystery."

His first night at an Ansayrii village was not very encouraging; and a more timid traveller might possibly have come away with no more than Burckhardt's experience of the inhabitants.—

"After passing the river we had a heavy and deep swamp to wade through, in which Ibrahim and his donkey were nearly lost; passed also some encampments of the Semmer Arabs. The plain stretched back, and the mountains bore on their summits two or more castles, of which I promised myself the exploring on my return. Reached the village of El Hah, near which I asked for a cup of water. 'We have none.'—'Ah,' I replied, 'I need not ask if this is a Christian or a Mussulman village.'—'Why?' they asked.—'Because, had it been a Christian village I should not have asked in vain.' A woman upon this brought me bread and water, saying, 'Let not your mouth curse us, my lord, for inhospitality to the stranger.' My guards quite disparaged the castles, assuring me there were hundreds of them. Pulled up at an Ansayrii village; the women were unveiled, the men fair-complexioned, but with eyes, brows, hair, &c., as black as coal. The head-man pressed me much to stop with him at the village. My guards seemed rather afraid; in fact, had some hours before made an endeavour to stop at a set of tents; but I wished to push on to Tartousa. We now forced our way through a low wood, putting up woodcocks at every step. I counted, during the hour we were going through it, two hundred and seven. Passed a ruined *borye*, and then, taking the lower road, arrived at 10 o'clock at night at Tartousa. It had poured with rain for the last three hours. We had to make the circuit of the town to arrive at the gate, and then all our bawling produced no effect. At last we pushed the boy Ibrahim inside, who is one of those clever boys nature has made, to balance their happier fortunes, supernaturally ugly; he opened the gate, and then ran on shouting 'fire,' so we entered a café, leaving a dreadful tumult and confusion outside. It was useless at that hour waiting for a house, so a part of the café was cleared for me, and I sat in silent grandeur eating my supper, enveloped in smoke and dust. We had an awful fight of steeds: then all relapsed into silence. There were besides myself, about fifty muleteers, Arabs, and Ansayrii in the khan. I did not undress, for my bed was soaked with wet from crossing the river, but lay on my carpet, leaning against a large saddle-bag. After all had been quiet for a couple of hours or so, I felt a hand introduced deep into the saddle-bag at my back. I waited till the fellow was hard at work, when, seizing his beard with one hand, I administered my kourbash most stingingly with the other. He was a heavy powerful fellow, but the part I had seized on was most painfully sensitive. He, however, at last broke away, and by that time all were roused and swearing; my antagonist loudly calling on the Mahometans to avenge the insults to their faith. Knowing the people, however, I called for a nargilleh, which Ibrahim brought: he seems to take a fiendish delight in strong excitements. They now cursed and swore frightfully:—their faith, their name, mothers', fathers', sisters' honours—all were involved in disgrace if the insult were not avenged. At last they approached me where I sat, the three servants standing before me, and were going to begin; but this I spared them, by saying that if the thief was not at once given in charge, and the Montselim sent for, I should do wonders; that such a deadly insult had never, &c. &c. The soldiers had slunk off, but ultimately, in consequence of my servants' bluster, who represented me as a sort of judge of kings—who did not rule, because it was low, or for some private reason of my own—(their bright arms and my numerous weapons no doubt also had their effect)—my slumber remained undisturbed till daylight; when a man in high authority returned with the servant I had sent with my bouyrdees and firmans, and, apologising for the lodgings I occupied, and for the Montselim's not having known of my arrival, and receiving me with due honours, asked me if I wished to see the man tried. Answering in the affirmative, a short court was held, and about one hundred sound cuts administered, when I begged him off. The foremost in abuse were then seized and thrown down, when I begged for them also. They all mumbled kisses (probably curses) over my hand, hoped 'I should live long, and grow fat.'"

Proceeding to Latakia, which town he made his head-quarters for a time, Mr. Walpole began to make acquaintance with some of the Ansayrii, and got occasional glimpses into the secret arcana of their doctrines. The fact of his being an Englishman favoured his progress; as the tribes of Lebanon generally—so says Mr. Disraeli—look to England as their future protector. Of this leaning we have an instance here given.—

"Received a visit from Ismael Osman, an Ansayri, the chief of the district of Kerdaha. He governs for the sultan, being under the kaimakan, or governor, here. They are said both to eat a good deal of money, and misrule considerably. They made me the kindest offers of hospitality if I would visit them—in fact, pressed me much to do so. They asked and examined with great attention my Arabic Bible, but we did not speak on any other than general subjects, the expected conscription of the sultan also, of which they entertain great dread. One of them, the head-man, offered me half his property if I would but live there, and afford him protection. 'We are eaten up, my lord. God send the day we fall under the rule of England. The Ottoman empire will soon be partitioned, and heaven grant we may fall under her rule.'"

But Mr. Walpole himself attributes his safety and success with the Ansayrii to his own shrewdness and their strange determination to believe him one of their own sect. Everywhere he met with the rude hospitality of the desert and the hill-side,—and frequently with the warmest courtesy and good nature. The manners of the people, their wretched ignorance, their strange beliefs are all described so as to interest the distant reader. The Ansayrii seem to have many good qualities; and there would be more hope for their future if the teacher could only be induced to appear amongst them. Some of the stories told illustrative of their ignorance seem as if they should refer to the savages of South America at the period of its discovery rather than to men living at the present day and within view of the Mediterranean. Take the following as an example.—

"The tombs without the town are of extraordinary depth, one, cut in the solid rock, I saw, seventeen feet deep, and also the remains of one with carving of the later Roman era. There is another at our consul's garden of the same sort. The manner of the poor French gentleman, Capt. Boutain's death, while exploring the Nahr-el-Sin, was related to me to-day. He journeyed, it appears, with one servant, each carrying a portion of the luggage. Having crossed the river, he alighted to rest; in putting his

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baggage to the ground a bag of coins (he always collected them and carried them with him) rattled loudly. The fancy of the natives magnified the treasure, and they could not resist; they fell on him and killed him; they cut him to pieces afterwards. I was also told that the adventurous Lascaris was poisoned. He also resided here some time previous to the Arab tour he made, and gained great popularity among the Ansayrii; probably he did not do much among them. His subsequent career is well known: my informant hinted he was poisoned; I suppose he meant by the English. A story was related also of Count La Borde. While among the Arabs, he saw a very fine mare which he wished to purchase; while the bargain was going on (another was bargaining, he not speaking Arabic)—hearing a talk, the Arabs thronged round and jostled him rather rudely. He drew his sword: as quick as his ready steel flashed, came forward the rummah and cobba of the Arab; he was borne back by numbers; burning with rage he plucked his head-dress, (oh, shade of the unduteous son, his wig and all came too,) and he cast it amidst the crowd. They fell back in terror from this man of wondrous make. '*Ya wallah*, the Caffre has pulled his head off—God help us, God pardon us.' This gave time to appease all anger; the Count replaced his wig, which had proved to him a better defence than the triple shield of Ajax or the petrifying head of Medusa: Backshish, backshish, and all was forgotten."

Or this, in another range of ideas.—

"The other day, at dinner, the following story was related:—A Christian peasant, being anxious to witness the worship of the Druses, laid himself in a window-hole, whence he could not be seen. Presently the Druses assembled, and sitting down, recited several prayers; then they produced a figure. One said, 'You are God, who made the world; who made so and so, who did so and so. You let the Druses be beaten, and gave them up to the Turks. Now, save yourself.' And the figure was handed over to others, who soundly flogged it. Another was produced. 'You are the Saviour, the Son of God. You have brought more trouble, wars, fights on the earth than aught else. Save yourself.' And this idol was handed over, and treated like the first. Another was produced. 'You are Mahomet, and what have you done? We owe you wars, fightings—our tyrants, our persecutors. Hand him over.' And he was whipped. Another now was produced. 'You are Providence. Now, see what you can do. Save yourself.' The Christian could stand it no longer. He dashed a loose stone down among them, and they all fled. He made a retreat as soon as he could, but treading on a loose rock, it capsized over him, and he remained imprisoned. The next day his brother, working in the field, heard his cries, and forthwith released him, saying, 'Thank Providence for your release.'—'Ah,' said the other, 'Providence must thank me also; had I not thrown the stone he would have caught it nicely.'"

To the hospitality of the Ansayrii Mr. Walpole bears ample testimony:—and indeed his narrative furnishes evidence on which the reader can form his own judgment in this particular. As in the East generally, the plan of making presents was universal:—but, unlike Jew or Greek in this respect, the Ansayri felt a strange reluctance to receive more valuable gifts in return for his own.—

"It is necessary to mention the good offices of the Ansayrii towards me, nor did others fail to reap an abundant harvest, I am sorry to say; for less scrupulous than I, they availed themselves of it to the fullest extent: greatly to my annoyance, presents flowed in daily; butter, grease, eggs, vegetables, lambs, goats, gazelles, partridges, frankolin, sour milk, coals, tobacco, felts, cotton; in fact, all that they possessed; invariably a present of thrice the value was offered in return, but not accepted. However, I provided every day burgoul (millet) cooked with grease, coffee, nargillehs, and arrack, for all who came, and seldom fewer than one hundred or upwards fed in my corridor; money they would not receive: in fact it sometimes went so far that the present was dashed on the ground, because my servants steadily maintained I would receive none unless they received one in return. One morning the hadjee came to me in a state of great excitement, and said 'Wallah billah, ya beg; here is the devil's third wife below; may I beat her?'—'God forbid,' I replied: 'What is it?'—He said 'There is Abdallah, with his tongue like honey, can make nothing of her. She vows by your beard she cannot receive anything, and says you are Ali; God preserve you from her words. There she stands naked (unveiled), till my old eyes are ashamed.'—I said, 'Pray send her up:' he uttered some invocation to protect me, and she ascended to my little snuggery, he discreetly waiting below. She was a young girl of about fifteen, wife of my great friend, a Sheik Hassan. Shouting Allah, the usual salutation of an Ansayri woman, she knelt down in the corner and said, 'There are the Christians and the Turks eat us up, and love our gifts; you, one of my man's own holy chiefs, will not take my offering.'—I said, 'I shall be proud to do so, if you will take mine.'—'Ah!' she said, 'great as you are, you cannot feel for your slaves; my lord will beat me if I go back with money; how shall I creep to him? take it, take it, for his head.' Perhaps it was not his head that changed my opinion, but I took it. The sheiks even ate with me, a thing they would have lost their lives sooner than have done with a Turk, even though it were the dreaded Pasha himself."

But the hospitalities usually contained other ingredients and offers than the above:—as witness another occasion and another place.—

"On returning to the village, the people had prepared a feast ample for twenty, and pressed me to eat. On my complimenting my host on the extreme beauty of his daughters, he said—'In your country would they fetch two thousand piastres?'—'But have the mountain youth no taste; will they not give two thousand for such angels?'—'Yes, Ya Beg, they would, but then they cannot; they have it not. They pay ten now and twenty then: perhaps the whole is not paid before ten years; then he gives a sheep to-day and a felt to-morrow, but I want two thousand down. Come marry, Ya Beg; why waste your youth in wandering over old mountains, looking at ruined stones. Marry and live long? Kishmet, kishmet!'"

The good sheik of course considered Mr. Walpole a true Ansayri, or he would not have made such an offer. The young females of this race are often spoken of as extremely beautiful; but their lot in life is far from being an enviable one. They are bought in the first instance like slaves — received into the husband's house like wild beasts—and ever afterwards treated like domestic animals.

From the general description of these curious people we extract the following paragraphs.—

"They are a fine, large race, with more bone and muscle than is generally found among Orientals; browner than the Osmanlee, but lighter, fairer than the Arab; brown hair is not by any means uncommon. The women, when young, are handsome, often fair with light hair and jet black eyes; or the rarer beauty of fair eyes and coal-black hair or eyebrows; but exposure to the sun, and the labours they perform, soon wear them out. The traveller will see these poor girls staggering along under a load of wood a horse would hardly carry, and the child being suckled until two, or even four years of age, naturally tends to weaken the mother, who has thus, perhaps, on very insufficient diet, to support three from her breast. * * The nation, for such it is, being capable of mustering forty thousand warriors able to bear arms, is divided into two classes, sheiks and people; the sheiks again into two, the Sheiks or Chiefs of Religion, Sheik el Maalem, and the temporal sheiks, or the Sheiks of Government; these being generally called Sheik el Zollum, or Sheiks of Oppression. These latter, though some of them are of good families, are not so generally; having gained favour with government, they have received the appointment: others there are, however, whose families have held it for many generations, such as Shemseen Sultan, Sheik Sucor, &c. The sheiks of religion are held as almost infallible, and the rest pay them the greatest respect. With regard to the succession, there seems no fixed rule; the elder brother has, however, rule over the rest, but then I have seen the son the head of the family while the father was living. The sheik of religion enjoys great privileges: as a boy he is taught to read and write; he is marked from his fellows from very earliest childhood by a white handkerchief round his head. Early as his sense will admit, he is initiated into the principles of his faith; in this he is schooled and perfected. Early he is taught that death, martyrdom, is a glorious reward, and that sooner than divulge one word, he is to suffer the case in which his soul is enshrined to be mangled or tortured in any way. Frequent instances have been known where they have defied the Turks, who have threatened them with death if they would not divulge, saying, 'Try me, cut my heart out, and see if anything is within there.' * * The lower classes are initiated into the principles of their religion, but not its more mystical or higher parts: they are taught to obey their chief without question, without hesitation, and to give to him abundantly at feasts and religious ceremonies: and above all, to die a thousand deaths sooner than reveal the same faith he inherits from his race."

Mr. Walpole professes to have fathomed this "Asian Mystery;" but we must say that his explanations are somewhat obscure,—as our readers shall see, this being all that is vouchsafed on the subject.—

"They worship Ali. In one of their prayers they say, 'I declare I worship Ali. Ibn Abou Talib (the Ali of Mahomet), he is above all,—a God Almighty.' They regard Mahomet el Hamyd as the prophet of God, and use the Mussulman confession—'La illa illa Allah, Mahomet el Hamyd, Resoul e nebbi Allah,' thus; but they omit all this when before Mahometans, saying merely, 'There is no God but God, and Mahomet is the prophet of God.' Otherwise, they say, 'There is no God but Ali, and Mahomet el Hamyd, the Beloved, the prophet of God.' I do not intend here to enter into their belief more fully; but it is a most confused medley—a unity, a trinity, a deity. 'These are five; these five are three; these three are two; these two, these three, these five—all are one.' They believe in the transmigration of souls. Those who in this life do well, are hospitable, and follow their faith, become stars; the souls of others return to the earth, and become Ansayrii again, until, purified, they fly to rest. The souls of bad men become Jews, Christians, and Turks; while the souls of those who believe not, become pigs."

Probably Mr. Walpole has other and more precise knowledge of the matter; otherwise, we hardly see how he can boast of having "penetrated a secret which is the enigma of ages." At most, he has but told us that there is a secret—a cabalistic form, most likely—among the Ansayrii. What that secret is, he either does not know or does not choose to say:—so that the "enigma of ages" is still an enigma so far as his labours and expositions are concerned with it.

In other respects, this volume—we have been speaking solely of the third, the only one containing notes worth publication—is full of interest, and will unquestionably extend its author's reputation as a writer of travels. It is a great pity that its chance of finding an audience should be put in peril by its heavy and uninteresting companions. Many may lay the work down with the first volume. Should he reprint, we recommend Mr. Bentley to consider the policy of separating the account of Mr. Walpole's visit to the Ansayrii for a single and separate volume.

Dr. Martin Luther, the German Reformer—[*Dr. Martin Luther, &c.*] Represented in Pictorial Designs by Gustav König; in Historical Sketches by Heinrich Gelzer. Hamburgh, Besser; London, Williams & Norgate.

In this handsome book both Art and Literature have been employed on a memorial of the great Reformer; and each with more than common earnestness and skill. The production of a series of engravings from drawings by König of Munich may be regarded as its first object:—but care has also been taken that their illustration should give to the work a literary character in keeping with the graphic embellish-

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ments. This task, declined by Ranke, on the ground of other engagements, has been performed by Professor Gelzer of Berlin, in a manner which justifies the recommendation of the eminent historian.

The letter-press consists of two portions: both to a certain extent independent of the other, yet harmonizing in the general design,—of giving to the mind as well as to the eye a lively image of the German Luther. The engravings, which are numerous enough to depict every circumstance of his life that can be painted—are each accompanied by a short written comment or explanation: the substance of which is mostly taken from the very words of the Reformer himself, or from those of his earlier biographers, which describe the passages of his life. The strong hearty language of the man and of his own time has been rightly judged the fittest to interpret sketches in which their figure and spirit are restored by the pencil,—with a natural leaning to the style of ancient German Art.

Here, of course, the Historian waits on the Painter; and his merit lies in the skill with which he can maintain a becoming part of his own, while enhancing the display of another. This duty performed, the writer proceeds to the more substantive task of tracing, in a series of comprehensive chapters, an outline of Luther's character, personal history, and relations to his time and to the destinies of Europe generally. This is not offered as a complete biography: the works of Hagenbach, Marheineke, Jürgens, and others, having sufficiently preserved the minor details of his life, and the course of his exertions and controversies. The object here is rather to comment, in a larger sense, on the spirit and calling of the man; and to show the inward and outward purport of his work,—for the minutiæ of which readers are expected to consult the biographies already extant. The "Outlines" are drawn out in distinct sections. The first includes the Reformation before Luther, and the Reformation in Luther; the second, the strife and the final rupture with Rome—including Wittenburg, Worms, and the Wartburg: where, by the translation of the Bible, "the Reformation became invincible." The third, entitled "Reformation and Revolution," depicts the controversial stage; in the first part of which the authority of Scripture and the nature of the Sacraments are chief objects: in the second the political and social warfare,—wherein the intrigues of Princes and servile Rebellion were alike controlled and rebuked by the strong hand of the Reformer. The fourth and final section is devoted to "the Reformer and his work"; viewing him first in his external mission, as the founder of a new church, then in personal domestic relations, as son and father, husband and friend. The whole is closed by a general survey of the task which Luther was destined to attempt, and endowed with special qualities, as well as enabled by the circumstances of his time, to fulfil.

The composition is not unnecessarily long,—and may be praised for its solidity and emphasis rather than for lively or eloquent representation. On the main points of Luther's character and actions, the Professor firmly takes the ground which may now be said to be universally occupied by superior minds, in Germany and elsewhere, on the Protestant side of the question. As a German Lutheran he naturally dwells with pious admiration on the nobler traits of his great countryman. But nothing will be found in his remarks that oversteps the bounds of moderation or exceeds that earnest tone in which the philosopher or the historian is entitled to utter his deliberate convictions on illustrious men and important events. A work of this class cannot, indeed, expect to recommend itself in any way to opinions that regard Luther as a dangerous heretic. In their eyes he can have no right to any commemoration but such as visits the offence of great schismatics with the ineffaceable stigma of history.

Just now, both here and in Germany, many whom circumstances have led to turn their eyes with reverence and admiration towards the founder of Protestantism will accept with a hearty welcome this tribute to his memory:—the most splendid that has yet been produced by any press. The designs, engraved with much precision and delicacy, are well chosen and expressive,—many of the principal scenes are represented with picturesque and striking effect,—and some of the domestic groups and incidents possess a certain serious and simple beauty that spiritualizes the homely subject.

In the continuous pursuit of a single theme through so many, as forty-eight separate scenes, it is of course impossible to avoid some monotony; but the tendency to sameness in general character has been met in different ways with considerable art,—and a choice of incidents apt for variety of effect has evidently been studied, with more success than would at first sight seem possible in pourtraying a life for the ruling idea of which neither Painting nor Sculpture can afford more than a symbolic expression.

As a Christmas gift of higher character than usually belongs to illustrated books, this volume may just now be especially appropriate. Its execution, both literary and artistic, would, indeed, insure it a welcome among the more sedate class of book-fanciers at any season,—and its subject belongs to all time.

GREAT EXHIBITION.

Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue.

[Third Notice.]

In our former articles on this valuable work we sketched with some degree of care those salient points of utility which appeared to us to render it an enduring record to the philosopher, the manufacturer, and the merchant. But there are other classes in connexion with whose pursuits the 'Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue of the Great Exhibition of 1851' assumes a not less interesting aspect. We allude on the one hand to those by whose imagination, ingenuity, labour and perseverance the wonders of that vast Autolycus' pack were produced,—and on the other, to those to supply whose cravings that endless variety of objects—useful and useless, beautiful and ugly, cheap and dear, transient and permanent—sprang into material existence.—To the class of the workman, whether artist or artizan, a permanent record indicating even by the slightest sketch the composition, general form and character of any work of art must ever be most valuable. To the public, whose taste is constantly either tempted astray by frivolity and affected graces or elevated by objects of purer design, the series of illustrations which confers so much value on the work now under notice cannot but be equally acceptable.

It is to the general public that the producer of every article of utility turns for encouragement and support,—and it is therefore in the hands of the great body of purchasers that the fate of artistic design as applied to manufactures lies. By their judgment, whether good or bad, the key must be given in harmony with which the artist and the workman must tune their inspirations. Many, we have little doubt, first turned their attention to their responsibilities in this matter on the occasion of their repeated visits to the galleries of the Crystal Palace. There probably for the first time they entered on the task of selection in a serious spirit. Actual comparison furnished them with an unerring test of excellence; and many a lesson on the combination of utility and beauty was doubtless there intuitively acquired. The forms of many of the objects displayed were thus impriated on their imaginations, as standards wherewith to compare others on which their faculties as judicious purchasers might be subsequently exercised. It is not to be expected, however, that the ideas thus formed could be otherwise than crude and imperfect; and it is fortunate that the power of graphic illustration which is now happily so universal amongst us should bring to their aid the materials requisite for fortifying their memories and reviving their original impressions.

Who that remembers the costly engravings which illustrate such works as Stuart and Revett's 'Athens,' and the early publications of the Dilettanti Society and of the Society of Antiquaries—and turns from them to that wonder of the nineteenth century, the *Illustrated London News*—can fail to recognize the remarkable extension of the power of graphic delineation in this country during the last hundred years?

Every draftsman will at once acknowledge the impossibility of depicting rapidly and correctly an unceasing variety of subjects without the constant exercise of a nice power of discrimination between those peculiarities of form which confer either beauty or deformity on each different object. That plethora of sketching which is the great characteristic of the present age, as compared with the habit of our forefathers, may be considered to amount almost to a mania; but while it indicates the excitable temperament of a public ever craving after fresh food for imagination, it by no means implies the absence of that balance of judgment which should exist in every well regulated mind. While the unceasing swarm of modern periodical publications accumulates from week to week, and almost from day to day, abundant material for the study of the artist, it ministers largely to the amusement of the public; and not to their amusement only,—since it provides for those who are willing to use them lessons of no slight importance. How many are there whose impressions of picturesque form are derived almost exclusively from these sources:—the Protean variety of which serves to demonstrate that, when treated by the artist's mind and touched by his skill almost every diversity of style may be also invested with the aspect of grace and of beauty.

Bewildered by the Medieval Court—by the traditions of the Antique presented in the works of Gibson, Pradier, Jerichau, Etex, and others—by the reminiscences of cinque-cento art for which Barbetti and Gruner especially have shown their admiration—by the glories of India and the gorgeousness of the East,—the public stood a chance of remaining as undecided and lost as the schoolboy whose choice hesitates between the varied dainties of the pieman's basket until pieman and dainties have vanished from his sight, leaving his purpose inchoate and his taste ungratified. Time and considerable industry were required to mature the impressions made by the examination of a series of objects so strikingly contrasted as those which must have affected the imagination of every visitor to the Great Exhibition; and its comparatively short duration doubtless left many with but half completed investigations and necessarily crude and imperfect conclusions. The chief value, therefore, of such a publication as the 'Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue' is, to furnish that species of *memoria technica* by means of which

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the imagination may fill up at leisure the hasty outlines provided by its pages, and thus carry on the thread of interrupted investigations and their dependent conclusions. Although in many cases the engravings in this work present little more than indications of the general aspect of the objects represented, no one who has dwelt with any degree of interest on the originals can fail with their assistance to recall the images daguerreotyped on his memory by the excitement of actual inspection.

It is not to be expected that any pictorial records of the Great Exhibition should be fully appreciated at the present time. A man's portrait is of little value while he lives. Take him away from the society of those who have known, loved, and honoured him, and at once the sketch which before may have been at a discount rises to a rapid premium. Even the daub which may have been turned to the wall as a libel on the features of a living friend, may when that friend has been removed be re-varnished, raised to the dignity of a gilt frame, and cherished as an invaluable "memento of departed worth." So we suspect will it be with even the humbler of those representations by means of which the industrious artists and the enterprising publishers of 1851 have sought to record the characteristics of the great event of that eventful year. — The work before us will unquestionably rank among the principal and most important of such records.

There is no task more difficult than to convey by means either of words or diagrams a just idea of the peculiarities and excellencies of the objects of fine Art. Technical and scientific language may define with the utmost precision the component ingredients of raw materials, their temperature, weight, quality, and appearance. A well-drawn projection, with letters of reference and a copious description, may convey to one who bestows sufficient pains to master the subject a clear and accurate idea of the powers and uses of a complicated machine, and of the principle of its action. But no pen or pencil can give a correct impression of the merits of a work of the highest order of sculpture. The representation of that insensible gradation of plane by which one rounded surface melts in the sinuosities of another—of that exquisite contrast of texture which gives to marble flesh its soft and tender aspect, in contradistinction to drapery and objects uninformed by life—presents difficulties scarcely to be overcome even by the most elaborate and costly engraving. From wood-cut illustration, therefore, it would be unfair to expect too much; and it may be generally remarked of this mode of engraving, that where least has been attempted most has been achieved. Thus, the most successful prints in the 'Illustrated Catalogue' are outlines, with very slight effect, —such as those of the 'Pony and Children,' by Mr. Jones, 'The Archangel Michael,' by Mr. Lough, the great Bavarian Lion, 'The Amorous Lion,' by Geefs, of Brussels, the chased 'Cup and Salver,' by Lebrun, of Paris, the Silver Tabernacle and Arms from Spain; while others in which a more ambitious attempt at modelling of surface and complete pictorial delineation is displayed exhibit comparative failure:—witness the illustrations of the 'Hunter and Panther,' by Jerichau, of Denmark, the 'Glycera,' by Wyatt, and the bas-reliefs by Geerts, of Louvain. Taking into account, however, the extraordinarily short space of time within which this elaborate work has been prepared, and the number of artists whose efforts have contributed to its production, it is truly remarkable that the engravings should present so good and so uniform an appearance. That some of them are much better than others, it will be vain to deny; but on the whole they are in the highest degree creditable to the energy and liberality of Messrs. Spicer and Clowes.

To turn for a while from a consideration of the record, and to notice that which it records:—it is obvious that in the Fine Arts department of the Great Exhibition there existed ample materials for deep thought and hopeful expectation. If no other end had been answered than that of displaying how thoroughly it is the attribute of a high order of Art to assimilate with objects ministering to our daily wants and necessities, one great fact at least would have been demonstrated. In respect to the highest range of plastic art—Sculpture—we trust that the Exhibition will be found to have done much towards dispelling that deeply-rooted prejudice which has hitherto banished statues from the drawing-room, and from all contact with brilliant colouring, rich hangings, and decorative furniture; dooming them to herd with a series of their fellows in the "sculpture gallery,"—a cold, uncomfortable, stony apartment, against the flat wall of which they are relieved only (if relieved at all) by a weak wash of some pale and sickly tint. This system of bringing together in close proximity incongruous subjects of every kind—here a figure of Faith, there a Drunken Faun — here a Sentimental Nymph, there a Fighting Gladiator—here a Seated Philosopher, there a Child's First Grief, or some such puerility—cannot but tend to disturb the feeling of intellectual unity which should be derived from the examination of any well-arranged series of works of Art. The very objects that are felt to be incongruous when thus cast together might be consistent and agreeable if properly distributed and interwoven with the respective habits and sympathies of daily life.—Another great advantage to be obtained by encouraging a constant and familiar association with works of sculpture, or indeed with any objects of ideal art, is, that the introduction of a superior ingredient never fails to elevate the character of all inferior elements with which it is brought into contact,—just as the presence of a master spirit in society raises more ordinary minds to loftier efforts and nobler aims. So long as the cultivation of ideal beauty is regarded as "of man's life a thing apart," so long Art flourishes only as an exotic, requiring an atmosphere constantly heated by artificial means, and ever in danger of some chilling blight. Once make the rearing of that tender plant an object of serious study, place it in a congenial soil, and tend it with affectionate interest,—and its grateful nature will second and repay the effort. Elevated from its original condition as the pretty but useless ornament of the mansions of the wealthy few, Art becomes vigorous and hardy, bearing fruit, and ministering abundantly to the wants and pleasures of the many.

The same principles that regulate the training by means of which alone successful results are to be obtained in the highest walks of Art, prevail in an equal degree in every subordinate branch, even to the most mechanical. Taking cognizance, therefore, of the comparatively elevated position of the Fine Arts of this country at the present time, we feel little surprise, and great pleasure, at being enabled to recognize the improvement in form which the Great Exhibition has demonstrated to us in the most ordinary articles of daily use. Who that remembers the unwieldy cut-glass decanters, the lumbering sarcophagi sideboards, the scroll-pattern and everlasting shell of Sheffield and Birmingham plating, the castellated stoves, and the Gothic-pavilion paper-hangings, of but a very few years since, can hesitate to acknowledge the immense advance in taste which is evinced by the present popularity of more correct and simple forms. The beautifully cut glass of Messrs. Green, Bacchus, Pellatt, Richardson, &c. — the nicely carved and consistently formed sideboards of Messrs. Jackson & Graham, Cookes of Warwick, Poole & M'Gillivray, Trollope, and others—the elegant *repoussé* and enamelled plate of Morel, Hunt & Roskell, Garrard, Angell, Lambert & Rawlings, &c. — the beautiful stoves of Messrs. Stuart & Smith, Hoole & Robson, Feetham, Jeakes, Pearce, Baily, &c. —and the highly-successful paper-hangings of Messrs. Townsend & Parker, Woollams, Hinchcliffe, Simpson, &c.—demonstrate that a great and important change has taken place in each and all of the above-mentioned branches of art-manufacture.

One of the most gratifying circumstances which these improvements reveal to those who have attentively watched their developement is, that day by day a more independent recognition has taken place at once of the uses of every article and of the qualities inherent in the material of which it may be composed. Common sense and consistency have thus been made attendant on artistic imagination,—counselling, reproving and exciting. Thus, for instance, wine-glasses are no longer cast into heavy lumps of glass, in order to be cut all over with irregular projections,—but are made light and graceful, elegant in shape, and ornamented with delicate foliage and twisting and irregular indentations, produced in the peculiar and improved processes of manufacture. Iron-work, instead of — as heretofore — imitating blocks of stone and beams of wood, is gradually assuming those proportions in which the metal is most economically used, and which the eye recognizes at once as most appropriate to its conditions of cohesion and its other mechanical properties. The productions in the Great Exhibition which have been received with the highest gratification by the public are those in which common sense and real thought have been most strongly developed. This fact encourages us to believe, that whenever the same amount of careful study shall be brought to bear upon objects to the production of which abstract art is applied, the enfeebling thraldom of traditional styles will be cast aside, and rational principles of utilitarian construction will be universally adopted. Few will deny that such a form of progress could not but exercise a happy influence on our national architecture; and although in the Great Exhibition the external form of many objects appears to have been moulded in dependence on received traditions and antiquated styles, there is still much that is original both in the introduction of new materials and in the novel combination of others, in new processes of manufacture, and in the production of articles destined to supply newly created wants. Hence we feel convinced that the period is rapidly approaching when a scientific examination of the conditions of materials, a philosophic view of the wants which manufactures are required to supply, and a severe study of the laws of expression dependent on the combinations of primitive and fundamental lines, forms and colours, will unite to give to the arts of a great and original nation a character harmonizing at once with its greatness and with its originality.

It is a mistake to suppose that because the fine or industrial arts of any people may be based upon those of their predecessors in the great race of civilization they must necessarily be inferior in freshness to their prototypes. There are but two forms of originality;—absolutely new creation and the originality attained by new combinations:—the one not being less

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great than the other. It is the fate of those countries which are placed historically in the latter period of any great cycle to attain originality only by a sedulous cultivation of the latter faculty; and it is only by devoting ourselves to vary and refine upon successive combinations and experiments that we can hope to render the arts of England truly original and consistent with the actual phase of social developement. Thanks to publications like that now under our consideration—thanks to the amazing improvements which the perfection of wood-engraving, of lithography, and of steam-printing have produced in the cheapest forms of graphic illustration,—materials for the elimination of the bad in style and the selection of the good abound on every hand, and are brought within the reach of the humblest artizans.

In this direction, as in many another, the Great Exhibition has done infinite good; and if the lesson which it conveyed was so great that the human mind can scarcely cope with it—if its vast collection of beauties exist in memory only as a tangled web of incongruous styles and forms,—we must not on that account despair. Let us remember that it was out of "chaos" that "order came." Let us endeavour to reduce the chaos of the present to the order which exists in prospective, by adopting every means within our power to systematize our impressions of the Great Exhibition, whether philosophical or artistic; elevating the material and mechanical to the regions of Science and testing them by her laws,—and bringing down that which we may have gathered of the abstract and scientific to the practical uses of mechanical and material life.

That this task peculiarly devolves on the two classes whom we especially indicated at the commencement of the present notice, both of them should feel. The action of one on the other is constant and reciprocal. While public taste or its negation controls the operations of the artist and the workman, their productions re-act on the public. The interests of both are identified; and it is in vain to look to either alone for any great and radical improvement. In their case, at least, it is by co-operation, not by antagonism, that progression must be obtained.—That footing of constitutional "liberty, equality, and fraternity" on which not only the two classes alluded to, but all classes and all nations lately assembled, bringing the most precious deposits of their genius and industry to the "Great Meeting-House of all Denominations," could not but tend to a consolidation of all interests, and consequently to the reciprocal benefit of all.

The 'Illustrated Catalogue' is, it is true, but an echo of the Great Exhibition. Three volumes can furnish but a faint reflex of the varied works of industry that were crowded together in an area of nearly twenty acres. Such, however, is the power of graphic and typographic art, that in these volumes are contained the essence, and very pregnant soul of that so vast body. Tons of roses may be compressed into a few drops of the most precious *attar*,—a vast volume of vapour may be condensed into one drop of water. Such is the relation which may be assumed to exist between the Great Exhibition and this its Catalogue. Should this record of human industry survive some thousand years, what a picture will it present of the universal activity, the fiery energy, and the indomitable aspirations of this truly iron age! When generations yet unborn, in turning over its pages, may reflect on the wonders of engineering skill and mechanical refinement which were concentrated within the glassy walls of the Crystal Palace, and remember within how brief a period they had attained to such extraordinary developement, the conclusion will be forced on their minds that if the will and energies of the public and the artists of the present day had been directed with corresponding intensity towards carrying the Fine Arts forward to the same degree of perfection, a result might have been realized equal to that which characterized the palmiest days of Greece.

Ravenscliffe. By the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' &c. 3 vols. Colburn & Co.

This novel contains a few scenes not surpassed in power by those in 'The Admiral's Daughter' which announced an addition to the phalanx of English authoresses so remarkable as that of 'The Two Old Men.' At the commencement of 'Ravenscliffe,' too, and during the first half of the tale, its plot is so carefully knit as to warrant the supposition of greater thought and pains than ordinary having been taken.—Some vacillation is to be observed in the delineation of the principal male character. The unpopular Randal Langford, of the first chapter, who is horsewhipped in a public walk at Cambridge by a hot-blooded Irish Catholic, —ourselves almost acquiescing in the justice of the castigation, even while we pity its victim's misery—must have been a *Cymon* too saturnine and bitter ever to approach an *Iphigenia* so delicate as Eleanor Wharncliffe. True, she does not love him sufficiently to desire to marry him; but she is represented as clinging to him tenderly and fearlessly, and as finding in his manly ruggedness a welcome exchange for the worldliness of her own family. Later in the tale, again, when Randal becomes a father, we find him inspiring an impassioned and respectful affection in a son as amiable as the sire is semi-savage. This latter phenomenon belongs to the strained view of the parents' claims and privileges ever present to our authoress,—on which we commented while speaking of 'The Wilmingtons.' Whether it be defensible or otherwise in point of morals, it is here again injurious as damaging the probability which is essential to the novel-reader's entire credence in the novel.—Though Eleanor Wharncliffe did not desire to marry this cross-grained hero, she was forced into doing so by circumstances. To the weaving of the net by which she is enmeshed we have referred when commending the construction of the first half of the story. No reader can bear her company without feeling in some degree the same sense of powerlessness to cope with the fascinations of a dark destiny which is conveyed by the stories of Richardson's *Clarissa* and Scott's *Lucy Ashton*. This is praise enough, —yet not too much. We have always considered the bridal scenes at *Castle Ravenswood* as nearly unrivalled in modern fiction; and it is not without reflection that we declare that Eleanor Wharncliffe's wedding-day may stand next after —though not indeed by the side of them. The following fragments will explain themselves.—

"'Come, come, Miss Eleanor,' continued the old servant, 'time flies apace. Please to be getting up. There's your hair to be done you know, and that in itself will take me three-quarters of an hour.'—'Get up—get up,' answered she mechanically—'and what? —what for?—what——?'—'Why to be married, sure and certain,' said Cary, half laughing. 'Get up to be sure you must, Miss Eleanor, and lose no time.' She attempted no resistance—she got up. For a little while she seemed perfectly passive and patient under the hands of Cary, and suffered herself to be dressed like a victim adorning for, but ignorant of, the coming sacrifice. But when, after having completed the plaiting and arrangement of the most beautiful hair in the world, her maid was proceeding to place the orange-flower coronet upon her head, a sudden rush of recollections seemed to come over her; she uttered a fearful cry, tore the flowers from her, and cast them desperately upon the floor.—'What am I about?—What are you about?—What are we doing?'—she screamed wildly.—'Doing—doing, Miss Eleanor! Compose yourself my dear, dear young lady, for goodness' sake.' * *

"A whispered conversation was kept up between the lady and the attendant. 'I think we may let her lie till a quarter to nine, Cary. You can scuttle up her hair some way. It does not look so very bad even as it is,—and there's nothing but the dress and the veil to be put on.'—'There, that will do,' as Cary inserted the last pin; and Lady Wharncliffe having surveyed herself in the long glass, arranged the fall of a lace or a ribbon, and settled everything at last to her satisfaction, added, 'I will just step down and see how things are going on. You stay here, and for dear life don't utter a word, or make the least noise to disturb her till it is absolutely necessary. She seems to have fallen asleep. We may let her lay till nine. If she *is* ten minutes behind the time it surely does not signify.' And she left the room. In the hall, at the foot of the stairs, the first person she met was Randal Langford."

Randal Langford, we may mention, had begun to imagine the possibility of a hand without a heart being given to him,—and had therefore pressed earnestly for a few moments' private interview with the bride elect ere they should go to church. But to grant this was not in the tactics of Eleanor's mother.—

"At nine o'clock Lady Wharncliffe entered her daughter's room; whilst Randal, feeling every moment more distressed and irritable, vainly endeavoured to beguile his impatience by pacing up and down the hall, pausing from time to time to cast a look up the stairs, or at the door by which Lady Wharncliffe had vanished. Then he would place himself before the tall, narrow, arched windows of the hall, and watch the sleet and rain driving against the small panes, or listen to the swell of the winds, which, at intervals, shook the casements as if they would burst them through, and groaned and whistled around the house or among the trees. The hall-clock told the quarter-past nine, and then Sir John Wharncliffe, accompanied by Everard, and the other young men, sallied forth from a small breakfast-room, where they had been taking chocolate over a blazing fire, and began to look for their hats, great-coats, and gloves; for the carriages were by this time prepared to come round. There they found Randal. 'Heyday!' cried Sir John; 'You here! my good fellow. It is dreadfully cold. There is chocolate in the little breakfast-room, and a roaring fire. Do come in and take something before starting. You have a good four miles to go, and over a rough north country road.'—'No, thank you, Sir John; I am waiting to see Lady Wharncliffe. Everard,' taking him aside, 'listen to me. I *must* see your sister.'—'Well,' answered Everard, affecting to laugh, and glancing at the clock; 'then just have patience for fourteen minutes longer, and I take it the carriages will be at the door, and down the lovely bride will come.'—'But you do not or will not understand me, Everard. Every one seems in a league, I think, wilfully to misunderstand me this morning. I want—I wish—I must—and I will—speak to Eleanor for a few minutes alone,—before she comes down to enter your father's carriage.' He spoke earnestly, angrily, passionately. Everard cast a hasty, alarmed, scrutinizing, glance at him. The glance did not escape Randal. But the other recollected himself, and, with a laugh which he intended to sound careless, turned away, saying—'You must be clever if you get it. Women, the deuce take them, can think of nothing but their dress on a wedding morning. I'll be bound they are all too busy with her toilette to remember you. But,'—observing the increasing gloom of Randal's face,—he added, 'but, if you really do wish it, I'll run up-stairs to my mother, and see what can be done.' And lightly he ascended the stairs. The red door closed after him. He did not return any more than his mother had done. Randal remained standing at the foot of the stairs, his eyes rivetted upon the red door. He could scarcely contain his rage and impatience. And now the carriages are heard coming round. Sir John Wharncliffe's draws up to the door; whilst the sleet and rain beat pitilessly against the windows, and the wind roars and howls furiously. Mrs. Langford, who had been sitting quietly over the fire in her own

dressing-room, now entered the hall, accompanied by two or three young ladies who were to officiate as bridesmaids. They had arrived early that morning, and had been taken up-stairs to breakfast and warm themselves. The hall began rapidly to fill with the wedding-guests and their attendants. Servants were seen hurrying up and down, preparing people for the departure; helping the gentlemen to their cloaks and great-coats, and holding shawls and cloaks, whilst the young men attended upon the young ladies. There was much laughing, chattering, and bustle going on; whilst the wind without burst out at intervals into the most furious blasts,—howling and shrieking; and the rain and sleet drove more violently than ever against the clattering windows. Surely such a day of tempest had scarcely ever been known in the country! 'What weather! what the deuce shall we do? We shall all be blown over. How horrid cold!' &c. &c. &c.;—and small feet kept stamping in pretty impatience upon the marble floor of the apartment, and there was great calling for boas and mantles, with—'Oh, wrap me up well, for goodness' sake!' and,—'Do give me my victorine!' and,—'Quite a shame to muffle yourself up so!'—and so on. And, in the midst of this confusion of cheerful voices, and pretty affectations, and all the lively hurry incident to the occasion, there that tall dark figure stood—his eyes riveted upon the red door, and suffering from an agony of mingled vexation, anger, distrust, and impatience impossible to describe. * * At last, Sir John Wharncliffe himself began to grow impatient as he saw his fine horses standing waiting at the door, exposed to all the fury of the wind, rain and sleet,—and began to swear a little, and to exclaim in no measured terms against women for their endless delays,—and at last ordered one of the female servants, in attendance, to go up-stairs and inquire when Lady Wharncliffe would be ready. She obeyed and passed through that red door, which, as it stood there so obstinately closed, as it were, against him alone, seemed, at last, to fret Randal beyond bearing. Feeling desperate, and resolved to force an explanation at any risk, he set his foot upon the stairs, and was beginning impetuously to ascend, —when the hated obstacle was suddenly thrown aside, —the door flew wide open,—and, at the head of the stairs, as about to descend, the bride at last appeared; she was leaning upon her brother's arm, and supported, as it were, behind, by her mother. Her white dress floated round her,—the beautiful hair was half-hidden, half displayed by the light folds of the rich Brussels veil. Her fair forehead was surmounted by the pale greens and the white blossoms of her bridal coronet;—and beneath them appeared a face far paler than all these. The cheek was colourless, bloodless, ghastly,—wan, greenish shades were around her lips and beneath her eyes, which were wide open, and seemed to gaze into vacancy with a dreamy unmeaning stare. She moved forward as if impelled by others only, and by no will of her own;—in a strange, spectral, silent manner. He was inexpressibly shocked. It was with a feeling approaching almost to horror that he stood there for a moment gazing upon the altered face of her he so passionately loved;—then, no longer master of himself, he was rushing vehemently forward to address her,—even now,—but Everard waved him imperiously back,—saying, in an angry tone,—'Are you resolved to drive my father mad? For Heaven's sake get along, Eleanor,—do you hear how it rains? you will be drowned before you get into the carriage.' And he passed, with her, hastily on,—and even whilst he was speaking, the hall-door was opened, and such a whirlwind of rain and storm burst in that everything was thrown into the most unutterable confusion. And in the midst of this, scarcely sensible of what was going on, he saw that pale spectre hurried forward, followed by Lady Wharncliffe,—who saluted him with a nod and a smile as she passed.—The first sound which awakened him from the sort of trance into which he fell was the loud banging to of the carriage-door,—the cry of 'All right!' by the two footmen, as they sprang up behind,—and the rolling away of Sir John Wharncliffe's carriage. What followed was all confusion,—the wind roared through the door, and hissed against the casements; the rain poured down in torrents with deafening violence. People laughed, and cried out; and the young ones enjoyed the hurry and disorder to the utmost;—but he heard nothing,—for the roar of many waters was in his ears,—and he stood there like one bewildered. He started, and was awakened; for now his grave and formal mother came up to him in her coldest and most composed manner,—and, as if this morning were the most ordinary morning in his life, addressed him with,—'You go with me, Randal; and Miss Montague and Mr. Wharncliffe are of our party. Come, if you please; the carriage is at the door I believe, and we must not keep anybody waiting this horrid day,' &c. And his servant came up with his hat and gloves, which he took mechanically, and followed passively into the carriage, whilst the winds lifted their loud voices, and whistled, and roared, as if in wild and gloomy mockery; the huge trees bent and bowed their huge branches to the earth, as if in a bitter irony of congratulation; the vanes upon the roofs shrieked and cried, and all nature seemed rushing together in wildest uproar, like that which was raging in his own breast."

Few will deny the power of the above passages:—in spite of that power being impaired in our extract by separation from the scenes which precede and those which succeed them. There is no reserve, no flinching, no abatement of force in the working up of the catastrophe. How can a writer able to hurry us on through the wildest eddies of passion, without pause or exhaustion, to the very verge of the rapids,—nay, over the cataract,—deserve to be pardoned for the incoherence, the weakness, and the melo-dramatic want of nature which no less obviously distinguish the second half of her novel? She must abide severe reproof for trifling with the public whom she has fascinated, —for saving herself by a most ignominious scramble from the pains of tracing the consequences of the hurricane which she has shown herself capable of raising, and of ruling when at its wildest.—Nothing can be better than the scenes immediately after Eleanor's fearful wedding. Their narrator deserves all thanks for having spared us "madness in white satin" and the agonies of a broken heart. These things, indeed, Scott had too awfully indicated in his 'Bride of Lammermoor' for any one possessing the modesty and self-respect of an artist to attempt a second time. But from the moment when an heir is born to Randal Langford, nothing can be much worse—as regards probability and constructive skill—than 'Ravenscliffe.'—The glimpse of a character afforded us in the sketch of Priest Langford, the second son, does little to redeem the carelessness which has spoiled what might have been made one of the most remarkable among modern novels.

London Labour and the London Poor: a Cyclopædia of the Condition and Earnings of those that will Work, those that cannot Work, and those that will not Work. By Henry Mayhew. Vol. I. *The London Street Folk.*

An inquiry into the actual condition of the London poor has long been desired by the statist and philanthropist. Committees of the House of Commons, Special Commissioners, and "own Correspondents" have examined witnesses and made reports on mines, factories, coal-pits, and many other subjects; and if they cannot be said to have made the general public familiar with the state of the population engaged in these great branches of English industry, they have at least collected a body of authentic information, and laid it up in an accessible shape for the use of statesmen and public writers. But the idea of a free inquiry into the actual state of the million poor of London—embracing an intelligible account of their occupations, modes of living, earnings, education, amusements, morals, and, in fact, a distinct portraiture of the entire aspect of their moral and material life—seems not to have occurred to any one in office. Yet, there is scarcely any species of knowledge so valuable to the politician. London covers so large a surface—our habits of local government render its several parts so independent of ministerial action—the swell and subsidence of the mere tide of physical life are so vast—the power to check any abnormal movement is so slight compared with the surface to be acted on,—that an intimate knowledge of every part of the great city, of the conditions under which the population subsists, of the temptations which assail it, and indeed of all the elements of social disorder which exist and operate in this mighty metropolis, would seem to be indispensable to any prudent and sagacious minister. No effort, however, was ever made by the State to obtain this knowledge. Census returns have told us that nearly two millions and a half of human beings are gathered round the common centre of St. Paul's. We have been proud to tell foreigners of the square miles comprised within the limits of our great city,—of the parks, squares, docks, workshops, which adorn and occupy "the vast province covered with houses." But of the more human interests we have been content as a people to remain in great ignorance.

A private inquirer at length undertook to do for us that which the State had so long neglected. In connexion with the *Morning Chronicle*, Mr. Henry Mayhew—up to that time known chiefly as a writer of comic stories and editor of the 'Comic Almanac'—began a series of letters, which he entitled "Labour and the Poor," on the subject. The courage with which the task was undertaken—the ability and energy with which it was put in course of execution—were admirable. The work was good work in most respects:—and had it been effected in a severe spirit of truth, fairness, and neutrality, its record would have commanded a place in every library, and gained for its enterprising conductor an abiding place in the social history of England. But, unfortunately, the papers no sooner began to appear than a suspicion arose that the accounts were exaggerated. The nature of the author's previous writings lent a certain air of probability to this suspicion. Many of his sketches were highly effective,—and some of them looked as if they had been drawn for the mere sake of effect. Then came out in one of their series an attack on the Ragged Schools, based, as our readers know, on statements which could not afterwards be sustained; and the proved exaggeration in one case helped to throw a degree of doubt over the whole series of the writer's London "revelations."

But while we admitted, and admit, that these doubts were to some extent justifiable, we would guard against being thought to condemn Mr. Mayhew's labours. On the contrary, while we cannot but regret that his literary habits should have led him to adopt a style of treatment less simple than his subject required, we consider his book to be one of very considerable importance. The manner is much toned down in this reprint,—the classification is improved,—and the information is rendered more copious and precise.

We will not attempt to analyze the work,—at least, not in this stage of its existence;—but will endeavour by means of a few extracts to send such of our readers as may find an interest therein to the original. Here is an amusing sketch of the literature of the costermongers.—

"It may appear anomalous to speak of the literature of an uneducated body, but even the costermongers have their tastes for books. They are very fond of hearing any one read aloud to them, and listen very attentively. One man often reads the Sunday paper of the beer-shop to them, and on a

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fine summer's evening a costermenger, or any neighbour who has the advantage ef being 'n schellard,' reads aloud to them in the courts they inhabit. What thoy lovo best te listen to—and, indeed, what they are most eager for—are Reynelds's periodicals, especially the 'Mysteries of the Court.' 'They've got tired of Lloyd's blood-stained stories,' said ene man, who was in the habit ef reading to them, 'and I'm satisfied that, ef all London, Reynolds is the most popular man among them. They stuck to him ie Trafalgar Square, and would again. They nll say he's "n trump," and Feargus O'Conner's another trump with them.' One intelligent man eonsidered that the spirit of curiosity manifested by eestermongers, as regards the infermation or excitement derived from hearing storles read, eugured well fer the improvability of tho class. Another intelligent costermonger, who had recently read seme of the eheap periodicals to ten or twelve men, wemen, and boys, all cestermongers, gave me an aecount ef the eemments made by his auditors. They had assembled, after their day's work on their rounds, for the purpose of hearing my Informant read the last number of some of the penny pablications. 'The costermongers,' said my informant, 'are very fond of illustrations. I have known n man, what couldn't read, buy a periodical what had an illustration, a littlo out of the cemmon way perhaps, just that he might learn from somo one, who *could* read, what it was all nbont. They hnve all heard of Cruikshauk, and they think everything funny is by him—funey scenes in a play and all. IIis 'Bottle' was very mueh admired. I heard one man say lt was very prime, and showed what "lush" did; but I saw the same man,' added my informant, 'drunk three hours afterwards. Look you here, sir,' he continued, turning ever a periodical, for he had the number with him, 'here's a portrait ef "Catherine ef Russia." —"Tell us all about her," said one man to me last night; "read lt; what was she?" When I had read lt,' my infermant continned, 'another man, to whem I shewed it, said, "Don't the cove as did that knew n deal?" for they fancy—at least a many do —that one mae writes a whole periodical, or a whole newspaper. Now here,' proceeded my friend, 'you see's an engraving of a man hung up, burning over n fire, and some costers would go mad if they couldn't learn what he'd been deing, who he was, and all nbout him. "But about the picture?" they would say, and this is a very common question put by them whenever they see an engraving. Here's one of the passages that took their fancy wonderfully,' my informant observed:

"With glowing cheeks, flashing eyes, and palpitating bosom, Venelia Trelawney rushed beck into the refreshment room, where she threw herself into one of the armchairs already noticed. But scarcely had she thus sunk down upon the flocculent cushion, when a sharp click, as of some mechanism giving way, met her ears; and at the same instant her wrists were caught in manacles which sprang out of the arms of the treacherous chair, while two steel bands started from the richly carved back and grasped her shoulders. A shriek burst from her lips—she struggled violently, but all to no purpose: for she was a captive—and powerless! We should observe that the manacles and the steel bands which had thus fastened upon her, were covered with velvet, so that they inflicted no positive injury upon her, nor even produced the slightest abrasion of her fair and polished skin."

Here all my audience,' said the man to me, 'broke out with—"Aye! that's the way the harristeerats hooks it. There's nothing o' that sort among us; the rich has all that barrikin to themselves." "Yes, that's the b—— way the taxes goes in," shonted a woman. Anything nbout the police sets them a talking at once. This did when I read it:

"The Ebenezers still continued their fierce struggle, and, from the noise they made, seemed as if they were tearing each other to pieces, to the wild roar of a chorus of profane swearing. The alarm, as Bloomfield had predicted, was soon raised, and some two or three policemen, with their bull's-eyes, and still more effective truncheons, speedily restored order."

"The blessed crushers is everywhere," sheuted one. "I wish I'd been there to have had a shy at the eslops," said another. And then a man sung out: "O, don't I like the Bobbys?" If there's nny foreign language which ean't be explained, I've seen the costers,' my informant went on, 'annoyed at it —quite anneyed. Another time I read part of one of Lloyd's numbers to them—but they like something spicier. One article in them—here it is—finishes in this way:

"The social habits and costumes of the Magyar *noblesse* have almost all the characteristics of the corresponding class in Ireland. This word *noblesse* is one of wide signification in Hungary; and one may with great truth say of this strange nation, that '*qui n'est point noble, n'est rien*.'"

"I can't tumble to that barrikin," said n young fellow; 'it's a jaw-breaker. But if this here—what d'ye call it, you talk about—was like the Irish, why they was a rum lot." "Noblesse," said a man that's considered a clever fellow, from having once learned his letters, though he can't read or write. "Noblesse! Blessed if I know what he's up to." Here there was a regular laugh.' From other quarters I learned thnt some of the costermengers who were able to read, or loved to listen to reading, purchased their literature in a very commercial spirit, frequently buying the periodical which is the largest ie size, because when 'they've got the reading out of it,' as they say, 'it's worth a halfpenny fur the barrow.' Tracts they will rarely listen to, but if any persevering man *will* read tracts, and state thnt he does it for their benefit and improvement, they listen without rudeness, though often with evident unwillingness. 'Sermons or tracts,' said one of their body to me, 'gives them the 'errors.' Costermongers purchase, and net unfrequently, the first number of n penny periodical, 'to see what it's like.' The tales of robbery and bloodshed, of heroic, eloquent, and gentlemanly highwaymen, or of gipsies turning out to be nobles, now interest the costermongers but little, although they found great delight in such stories n few years back. Works relating to Courts, potentates, er 'harristocrats,' are the most relished by these rude people."

Of the effect of bad weather on the London costermongers we have this brief but startling glimpse.—

"'Three wet days,' I was told by n clergyman, who is now engaged in selling stenographic cards in the streets, 'will bring the greater part of 30,000 street-people to the brink of starvation.' This statement, terrible as it is, is not exaggerated. The average number ef wet days every year in London is, according to the records of the Royal Society, 161—that is to say, rain falls in the metropolis more than three days in each week, and very nearly every other day throughout the year. How precarious a means of living, then, must street-selling be! When a costermenger cannot pursue his out-door labour, he leaves it to the women and children to 'work the public-houses,' while ho spends his time in the beer-shop. Here he gambles nway his stock-money oft enough, 'if the cards or the luck runs again him'; or else he has to dip into his stock-money to support himself and his family. He must then borrow fresh capital at any rate of interest to begin again, and he begins on n small scale. If it be in the cheap and busy seasons, he may buy n pad of soles for 2*s.* 6*d.*, and clear 5*s.* on them, and that 'sets him a-going again, and then he gets his silk handkerchief out of pawn, and goes as usual to market.' The sufferings of the costermongers during the prevalence of the cholera in 1849 were intense. Their customers generally relinquished the consumption of potatoes, greens, fruit, and fish; indeed, of almost every article on the consumption of which the costermongers depend for their daily bread. Many were driven to apply to the parish; 'many had relief and many hadn't,' I was told. Two young men, within the knowledge of one of my informants, became professional thieves, after enduring much destitution. It does not appear that the costermongers manifested any personal dread of the visitation of the cholera, or thought thnt their lives were imperilled: 'We weren't n bit afraid,' said one of them; 'nnd perhaps that was the reason so few costers died of the cholera. I knew them all in Lambeth, I think, and I knew only one die of it, and he drank hard. Poor Waxy! he was a good fellow enough, and was well known in the Cut. But it was a terrible time for us, Sir. It seems to me now like a shocking dream. Fish I couldn't sell a bit of; the people had a perfect dread of it, all but the poor Irish, and there was no making a crust out of them. *They* had no dread of fish, however; indeed, they reckon it a religious sort of living, living on fish, but they *will* have it dirt cheap. We were in terrible distress all that time.'"

The "clergyman" mentioned at the beginning of the above passage is, or lately was, one of the most original characters about the streets of London. We are ourselves acquainted with his face and style, and can guarantee the substantial correctness of the report here given of his address. We think his waggeries will amuse our readers, whether the original be to them known or unknown. Mr. Mayhew says:—

All ladies and gentlemen who 'take their walks abroad,' must have seen, and of course heard, a little man in humble attire engaged in selling at one penny each a small card, containing n few sentences of letter-press, and fifteen stenographic characters, with an example, by which, it is asserted, anybody and everybody may 'learn to write short-hand in a few hours.' With the merits of the production, self-considered, this is not the place to meddle; suffice it that it is one of the many ways of getting a crust common to the great metropolis, and perhaps the most innocent of all the street performances. A kind of a street lecture is given by the vendor, in which the article is sufficiently puffed off. Of course, this lecture is, so to speak, stereotyped, embracing the same ideas in nearly the same words over and over and over again. The exhibitor, however, pleads that the constant exchange and interchange of passengers, and his desire to give each and all a fair amount of information, makes the repetition admissible, and even necessary. It is here given as a specimen of the style of the educated 'patterer.'

"*The Lecture.*—Here is an opportunity which has seldom if ever been offered to the public before, whereby any person of common intellect may learn to write short-hand in a few hours, without any aid from a teacher. The system is entirely my own. It contains no vowels, no arbitrary characters, no double consonants, and no terminations; it may therefore properly be called 'stenography,' an expression which conveys its own meaning! it is derived from two Greek words: *stenos*, short, and *grapho*, I write, or *graphō*, the verb, *to* write, and embraces all that is necessary in fifteen characters. I know that a prejudice obtains to a great extent against anything and everything said or done in the street, but I have nothing to do with either the majority or minority of street pretenders. I am an educated man, and not a mere pretender; and if the justice or genuineness of a mae's pretensions would always lead him to success I had not been here to-day. But against the tide of human disappointment, the worthy and the undeserving are so equally compelled to struggle, and so equally liable to be overturned by competition, that till you can prove that wealth is the gauge of character, it may be difficult to determine the ability or morality of a man from his position. I was lately reading an account of the closing life of that great leviathan in literature, Dr. Johnson, and an anecdote occurred, which I relate, conceiving that it applies to one of the points nt issue—I mean the ridicule with which my little publication has sometimes been treated by passers-by, who have found it easier to speculate on the texture of my coat than on the character of my language. The Doctor had a niece who had embraced the peculiarities of Quakerism; after he had scolded her some time, and in rather unmeasured terms, her mother interfered, and said, 'Doctor, don't scold the girl—you'll meet her in heaven, I hope.'—'I hope not,' said the Doctor, 'for I hate to meet *fools* anywhere.' I apply the same observation to persons who bandy about the expressions 'gift of the gab,' 'catch-penny,' &c. &c. which in my case it is sometimes easier to circulate than to support. At any rate, they ought to be addressed to *me*, and not to the atmosphere. The man who meets a foe to the face, gives him an equal chance of defence, and the sword openly suspended from the belt is a less dangerous, because a less cowardly weapon than the one which, like that of Harmodius, is concealed under the wreaths of a myrtle. If you imagine that professional disappointment is confined to people out of doors, you are very much mistaken. Look into some of the middle class streets around where we are standing: you will find here and there, painted or engraved on a door, the words 'Mr. So-and-so, surgeon.' The man I am pre-supposing shall be qualified,—qualified in the technical sense of the expression, a Member of the College of Surgeons, a Licentiate of Apothecaries' Hall, and a Graduate of some University. He may

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possess the talent of Galen or Hippocrates; or, to come to more recent date, of Sir Astley Cooper himself, but he never becomes popular, and dies unrewarded because unknown. Before he dies he may crawl out of his concealed starvation into such a thoroughfare as this, and see Professor Morison, or Professor Holloway, or the Proprietor of Parr's Life Pills, or some other quack, ride by in their carriage; wealth being brought them by the same waves that have wafted misfortune to himself; though that wealth has been procured by one undeviating system of Hypocrisy and Humbug, of Jesuitism and Pantomime, such as affords no parallel since the disgusting period of Oliverian ascendancy. Believe me, my friends, a man may form his plans for success with profound sagacity, and guard with caution against every approach to extravagance; but neither the boldness of enterprise nor the dexterity of stratagem will always secure the distinction they deserve. Else that policeman would have been an inspector! I have sometimes been told, that if I possessed the facilities I professedly exhibit, I might turn them to greater personal advantage: in coarse, unfettered, Saxon English, 'That's a LIE;' for on the authority of a distinguished writer, there are 2,000 educated men in London and its suburbs, who rise every morning totally ignorant where to find a breakfast. Now, I am not *quite* so bad as that, so that it appears I am an exception to the rule, and not the rule open to exception. However, it is beyond all controversy, that the best way to keep the fleas from biting you in bed is to 'get out of bed;' and by a parity of reasoning, the best way for you to sympathize with me for being on the street is to take me off, as an evidence of your sympathy. I remember that, some twenty years ago, a poor man of foreign name, but a native of this metropolis, made his appearance in Edinburgh, and advertised that he would lecture on mnemonics, or the art of memory. As he was poor, he had recourse to an humble lecture-room, situated up a dirty court. Its eligibility may be determined by the fact that sweeps' concerts were held in it, at ½d. per head, and the handbill mostly ended with the memorable words: 'N.B.—No gentleman admitted without shoes and stockings.' At the close of his first lecture (the admission to which was 2d.), he was addressed by a scientific man, who gave him 5s.—(it will relieve the monotony of the present address if some of you follow his example)—and advised him to print and issue some cards about his design, which he did. I saw one of them—the ink on it scarcely dry—as he had got it back at the house of a physician, and on it was inscribed: 'Old birds are not caught with chaff. From Dr. M—, an old bird.' The suspicious doctor, however, was advised to hear the poor man's twopenny lecture, and was able, at the end of it, to display a great feat of memory himself. What was the result? The poor man no longer lectured for 2d. But it is tedious to follow him through a series of years. He was gradually patronized throughout the kingdom, and a few months ago he was lecturing in the Hanover-square Rooms, with the Earl of Harrowby in the chair. Was he not as clever a man when he lectured in the sweeps' concert-room? Yes; but he had not been brought under *the shadow of a great name*. Sometimes that 'great name' comes too late. You are familiar with the case of Chatterton. He had existed, rather than lived, three days on a penny loaf; then he committed suicide, and was charitably buried by strangers. Fifty years or more had elapsed, when people found out how clever he had been, and collected money for the erection of that monument which now stands to his memory at St. Mary Redcliffe Church, in Bristol. Now, if you have any idea of doing that for me, please to collect some of it while I am *alive!*"

There is a sting in this drollery which reminds us of the jesters of a different time;—when Wisdom stood behind Brute Power at table, and uttered its sharp oracles under the protection of cap and bells.—The monthly issues of Mr. Mayhew's second volume are still occupied with the Street-Folk.

History of the War in Afghanistan. By J. W. Kaye. [Second Notice.]

It is due to Mr. Kaye to notice with the prominence which it deserves the impartial spirit under the influence of which his work has been generally written.—On the greater and more solemn questions which of necessity occur in the course of such a history, he has spoken with a strength and clearness which leave little to be desired or said. He condemns the war as a political crime and a military blunder; and he shows himself fully competent, when his narrative conducts him to the various turning points of the enterprise, to appreciate with judgment and intelligence the character and conduct of the actors principally concerned. The only qualification required of our general commendation of Mr. Kaye's accuracy and independence is perhaps with reference to some of the individual portraits of subordinate officers employed in Afghanistan. At so early a period after the conclusion of the events of which he writes, we can scarcely perhaps expect from any historian an impartiality so uniform and severe as to exclude even minor exceptions. The claims of acquaintanceship and intimacy are rarely so far disregarded. It is something to be able to add, that if Mr. Kaye's portraits are frequently too favourable, they are nearly always sketched with grace and feeling.

We alluded last week to the general ability of the descriptive passages in these volumes,—and will now illustrate that remark by one or two quotations. Take the following lively and vigorous account of the military affair of Purwandurrah and of the surrender of Dost Mahomed,—the Afghan chief who, as the rival of our puppet king Shah Soojah, was our great enemy in the Trans-Indus countries.—

"On the 2nd of November—a day which has obtained a melancholy celebrity in the annals of the English in Afghanistan—the British force came at last in sight of the enemy. The army of the Ameer was posted in the valley of Purwandurrah. The Nijrow hills were bristling with the armed population of a hostile country. Unprepared for the conflict, Dost Mahomed had no design on that November morning of giving war to the Feringhees. An unexpected movement precipitated the collision. On the first appearance of the British troops, the Ameer evacuated the village of Purwandurrah and the neighbouring forts; and was moving off to a position on some elevated ground commanded by a steep hill to the rearward, when, at the suggestion of Dr. Lord, the British cavalry were moved forward to outflank the Afghan horse. What followed is one of the most exciting, as it is one of the most melancholy, incidents of the Afghan war. It was a clear, bright morning. The yellow foliage of autumn glittered like gold in the broad sunlight. The opposite hills were alive with the enemy. The crisp, fresh air, so bracing and invigorating to the human frame, seemed to breathe confidence and courage. Dost Mahomed, who, since his defeat at Bameean, had been often heard of, but never seen, by the British troops, and who seemed to elude the grasp of the Army of Occupation like an ignis fatuus, was now actually within their reach. It ought to have been an hour of triumph. It was one of humiliation. The Afghans were on the hills skirting one side of the pass; the British troops were on the opposite declivity. Dost Mahomed saw our cavalry advancing, and from that moment cast behind him all thought of retreat. At the head of a small band of horsemen, strong, sturdy Afghans, but badly mounted, he prepared to meet his assailants. Beside him rode the bearer of the blue standard which marked his place in the battle. He pointed to it; reined in his horse; then snatching the white lunghi from his head, stood up in his stirrups uncovered before his followers, and called upon them in the name of God and the Prophet, to drive the cursed Kaffirs from the country of the faithful. 'Follow me,' he cried aloud, 'or I am a lost man.' Slowly, but steadily, the Afghan horsemen advanced. The English officers who led our cavalry to the attack covered themselves with glory. The native troopers fled like sheep. Emboldened by the craven conduct of the British cavalry, the Afghan horsemen rode forward, driving their enemy before them, and charging right up to the position of the British, until almost within reach of our guns. The Afghan sabres told, with cruel effect, upon our mounted men. Lieutenants Broadfoot and Crispin were cut to pieces. A treacherous shot from a neighbouring bastion brought Dr. Lord to the ground; and the dagger of the assassin completed the work of death. Captains Fraser and Ponsonby, whose gallantry has never been surpassed even in the annals of old Roman heroism, still live to show their honourable scars; and to tell, with mingled pride and humiliation, the story of that melancholy day. In front of our columns, flaunting the national standard, the Afghans stood for some time masters of the field, and then quietly withdrew from the scene of battle. Sir Alexander Burnes, awed by this disaster, wrote to Sir William Macnaghten that there was nothing left for the force but to fall back upon Caubul, and implored the Envoy there to concentrate all our troops. Sir William received this letter on the 3rd of November, as he was taking his evening ride on the outskirts of the city. His worst forebodings seem to be confirmed. Little did he know what thoughts were stirring in the breast of the Ameer. Dost Mahomed, in the very hour of victory, felt that it was hopeless to contend against the power of the British Government. He had too much sagacity not to know that his success at Purwandurrah must eventually tend, by moving the British to redouble their exertions, rather to hasten than to retard the inevitable day of his final destruction. He quitted the field in no mood of exultation, with no bright visions of the future before him. He had won the last throw, but the final issue had ceased to be a matter of speculation. The hour in which, with dignity and grace, he might throw himself upon the protection of his enemies, now seemed to have arrived. He had met the British troops in the field, and, at the head of a little band of horsemen, had driven back the cavalry of the Feringhees. His last charge had been a noble one; he might now retire from the contest without a blot upon his name. So thought the Ameer; as was his wont, taking counsel of his saddle. None knew in the British camp the direction he had taken; none guessed the character of his thoughts. On the day after the victory of Purwandurrah he was under the walls of Caubul. He had been four-and-twenty hours in the saddle; but betrayed little symptoms of fatigue. A single horseman attended him. As they approached the residence of the British Envoy, they saw an English gentleman returning from his evening ride. The attendant galloped forward to satisfy himself of the identity of the rider, and being assured that the Envoy was before him, said that the Ameer was at hand.—'What Ameer?' asked Macnaghten.—'Dost Mahomed Khan,' was the answer; and presently the Ameer himself stood before him. Throwing himself from his horse, Dost Mahomed saluted the Envoy, and said he was come to claim his protection. He surrendered his sword to the British chief; but Macnaghten returning it to him, desired the Ameer to remount. They then rode together into the Mission compound—Dost Mahomed asking many questions about his family as they went. A tent having been pitched for his accommodation, he wrote letters to his sons, exhorting them to follow his example and seek the protection of the British Government. He seemed to have become reconciled to his fate. He had no wish, he said, to escape. Force, indeed, would not drive him to abandon the refuge he had voluntarily sought. With Macnaghten he conversed freely of his past history; and raised, by the recital alike of his doings and his sufferings the strongest feelings of admiration and compassion in the Envoy's breast. Every effort was made to soothe the Ameer's feelings; and he soon became serene and cheerful. A report that it was the design of our Government to banish him to London, disturbed his equanimity for a time; but he was soon reassured by the promises of the Envoy, and began to look forward with hopefulness to a life of repose and security in the British dominions. A prisoner, but an honoured one, in the British camp, Dost Mahomed remained some ten days at Caubul, during which time all the leading officers of the garrison paid him the most marked attention. Men who kept aloof from Shah Soojah, as one to be religiously avoided, were eager to present themselves before the

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unfortunate Ameer, ond to show that they respected him in his fallen fortunes. He received his visitors with courtesy, and conversed with them with freedom. Seated oo the ground, he desired them to be seated; and seemed to take pleasure in the society of the brave men who did him honour. Captain Nicholson, an officer of distinguished gallantry and great intelligence, whose early death on the banks of the Sutlej is to be deeply deplored, having been selected by Sir W. Macnaghten to fill the difficult and delicate office of custodian to the fallen prince, acted, on these occasions, as interpreter. It may be doubted whether a single officer quitted his preseoce without drawing a comparison between the Ameer and the Shah, very much to the disadvantage of the latter. The King refused to see his prisoner, alleging that he would not be able to bring himself to show common civility to such a villain. 'This is well,' said the Envoy, writing to the private secretary of the Governor General, 'as the Dost must have suffered much humiliation in being subjected to such an ordeal.' All the natural kindliness of the Envoy now set in towards the fallen prince, and all the courtesies of the English gentleman were freely bestowed upon him. On the 12th of November, 1840, Dost Mahomed Khan, under a strong escort, commenced his journey towards the provinces of Iodia; and two months afterwards Macnaghten wrote: 'I trust that the Dost will be treated with liberality. His case has been compared to that of Shah Soojah; and I have seen it argued that he should not be treated more handsomely than his Majesty was; but surely the cases are not parallel. The Shah had no claim upon us. We had no hand in depriving him of his kingdom, whereas we ejected the Dost, who never offended us, in support of our policy, of which he was the victim.' And so Macnaghten, in a few lines of irrepressible truth and candour denounced the iojustice of the policy of which he himself had been one of the originators. It is possible, too, that Lord Auckland may have felt that Dost Mahomed 'never offended us,' but that we had victimized him; for he received the Prince he had deposed with becoming hospitality and respect, and burdened the revenues of India with a pension in his favour of two lakhs of rupees."

Equally able is the following description of the early marches of the English Invoding Army of 1838.—

"The Bengal army moved from Ferozepore on the 10th of December, 1838. Availing themselves of the water carriage, they moved down parallel to the river. The sick, the hospital stores, and a portion of our commissariat supplies were forwarded on boats, which were subsequently to be used for the bridging of the Indus. The force consisted of about 9,500 meo and 38,000 camp-followers. Some 30,000 camels accompanied the army. There was an immense assemblage of baggage. Sir Henry Fane had exhorted the officers of the army of the Indus not to encumber themselves with large establishments and unnecessary equipages; but there is a natural disposition on the part of Englishmen, in all quarters of the globe, to carry their comforts with them. It requires a vast deal of exhortation to induce officers to move lightly equipped. The more difficult the country ioto which they are sent — the more barbarous the inhabitants—the more trying the climate —the greater is their anxiety to surround themselves with the comforts which remote countries and uncivilized people cannot supply, and which ungenial climates render more indispensable. In the turmoil of actual war, all these light matters may be forgotten; but a long, a wearisome, and unexciting march through a difficult but uninteresting country, tries the patience of eveo the best of soldiers and fills them with unappeased yearnings after the comforts which make endurable the tedium of barrack or cantonment life. It is natural that with the prospect of o long and wearisome march before him, he should not be entirely forgetful of the pleasures of the mess table, or regardless of the less social delights of the pleasant volume and solacing pipe. Clean linen, too, is a luxury which a civilized man, without any imputation to his soldierly qualities, may, in moderatioo, desire to enjoy. The rudeness and barrenness of the country compel him to supply himself at the commencement of his journey with everything that he will require in the course of it; and the exigeocies of the climate necessarily increase the extent of these requirements. The expedition across the Indus had been prospectively described as a 'grand military promenade;' and if such were the opinion of some of the highest authorities, it is not strange that officers of inferior rank should have endorsed it, and hastened to act upon the suggestion it conveyed. Aod so marched the ormy of the Indus, accompanied by thousands upon thousands of baggage-laden camels and other beasts of burden, spreading themselves for miles and miles over the country, and making up with the multitudinous followers of the camp one of those immense moving cities which are only to be seen when an Indian army takes the field, and streams into an enemy's country.—It was clear, bright, invigorating weather—the glorious cold season of Northern India—when the army of the Indus entered the territories of Bahwul Khan. Nature seemed to smile on the expedition, and circumstances to favour its progress. There was a fine open country before them; they moved along a good road; supplies were abundant everywhere. The coyness of the Bahwulpore authorities, which had threatened to delay the initial march of the army, had yielded in good time, and at every stage Mackeson and Gordon had laid up in depôt stores of grain, and fodder, and firewood, for the consumption of man and beast. Officers and men were in the highest spirits. 'These,' it was said, by one who accompanied the army on the staff of its commander, and has chronicled all its operations, 'were the halcyon days of the movements of this force.' To the greater number of those who now crossed the frontier this was their virgin campaign. The excitement was as novel as it was inspiriting. They might be about to meet mighty armies and to subdue great principalities; or they might only be enteriog upon a 'grand military promenade.' Still, in that bright December weather the very march through a strange country, with all that great and motley assemblage, was something joyous and animating. The army was in fine health, full of heart, and overflowing with spirits. It seemed as if an expedition so auspiciously commenced must be one great triumph in the end. There was one thing to detract from the general prosperity of the opening campaign. Desertion was going on opace—not from the ranks of the fighting meo, but from the mass of officers' servoots, camel-drivers, aod camp followers, which streamed out from the rear of the ormy. The cattle, too, were falling sick and dying by the wayside. The provisions with which they were supplied were not good, and dysentery broke out among them. Many were carried off by their owners, who shrunk from the long and trying journey before them; and it sooo became manifest that the most formidable enemy with which the advancing army would have to contend, would be a scarcity of carriage and supplies."

We will only quote further the paragraphs with which Mr. Kaye concludes his History.—

"Little more remains to be said. The proclamations which were issued by the Supreme Government of Indin in the outumn of 1842, are in themselves the best commentaries of the War in Afghanistan. The Governor-General of 1842 passed sentence of condemnation upon the measures of the Governor-General of 1838. No failure so total aod overwhelming as this is recorded in the page of history. No lesson so grand and impressive is to be found in all the annals of the world. Of the secondary causes which contributed to the utter prostratioo of an unholy policy, much, at different times, has been written, in condemnation of the mighty political and military errors which were baptized in the blood ond tears of our unhappy countrymen. These errors are so patent—are so intelligible—they have been so often laid bare by the hand of the anatomist—and they have been so copiously illustrated in these volumes, that I do not now purpose to enlarge upon them before I lay down my pen. The secondary causes of the great failure were not badly summed up by the Commander-in-Chief. On the 24th of March, 1842, he wrote to the Governor-General:—The causes to which I ascribe our failure in Afghanistan are these:—1st. Making war with a peace establishment.—2nd. Making war without a safe base of operations.—3rd. Carrying our native army out of India into a strange and cold climate, where they and we were foreigners, and both considered as infidels.—4th. Invading a poor country, and one unequal to supply our wants, especially our large establishment of cattle.—5th. Giving undue power to political agents.—6th. Want of forethought and undue confidence in the Afghans on the part of Sir William Macnaghten.—7th. Placing our magazines, even our treasure, in indefensible places.—8th. Great military neglect and mismanagement after the outbreak.—But if nooe of these things had been in operation to defeat and frustrate our policy it must still have broken down under the ruinous expenditure of public money which the armed occupation of Afghanistan entailed upon the Government of India. It is on record, by the admission of Lord Auckland himself, that when our friendly connexion with Afghanistan was brought suddenly to a violent and disastrous termination, it had cost the natives of India, whose stewards we are, more than eight millions of money. To this is to be added the cost of the great calamity itself, and the expenses of the War of Retribution. All this enormous burden fell upon the reveoues of India; and the country is still groaning under the weight. And what have we gained? What are the advantages to be summed up on the other side of the account? The expedition across the Indus was undertaken with the object of erecting in Afghanistan a barrier against encroachment from the West. The advance of the British army was designed to check the aggressions of Persia on the Afghan frontier, and to baffle Russian intrigues, by the substitution of a friendly for an unfriendly power in the countries beyond the Indus. And now, after all this waste of blood and treasure, a Persian army is at Herat, and every town and village of Afghanistan is bristling with our enemies. Before the British army crossed the Indus, the English name was honoured in Afghanistan. Some dim tradition of the splendour of Mr. Elphinstone's mission were all that the Afghans associated with their thoughts of the English; and now, in their place, are galling memories of the progress of a desolating army. The Afghans are an unforgiving race; and everywhere, from Candahar to Caubul, and from Caubul to Peshawur, are traces of the injuries we have inflicted upon the tribes. There is scarcely a family in the country which has not blood of kindred to revenge upon the accursed Feringhees. The door of recoociliation is closed against us; and if the hostility of the Afghans be an element of weakness, it is certain that we have contrived to secure it. It needed but the announcement of the Persian army at Herat to consummate the completeness of the failnre. The very policy which ought to have been pursued in 1837,—the policy which was recommended by Sir John M'Neil,—is that which now presents itself, but uoder what altered circumstances, for our adoption. If, instead of expelling Dost Mahomed from his principality, we had advanced him a little money to raise, and lent him a few officers to drill, an army, the Persians would not now be lining the walls of Herat. But, instead of strengthening the Afghans, we have weakened them. Instead of making them our friends, we have made them our implacable foes. The policy which we pursued was disastrous, because it was unjust. It was, in principle and in act, an unrighteous usurpation, and the curse of God was on it from the first. Our successes at the outset were a part of the curse. They lapped us in false security, and deluded us to our overthrow. This is the great lesson to be learnt from the contemplation of all the circumstances of the Afghan War—'The Lord God of recompences shall surely requite.'"

We ought to say that Mr. Kaye has had the good sense and courage to spell all the Indian and proper names "in the manner most familiar to the English eye, and in pronunciation to the English ear." He says, that he expects to receive the censure of his "scholarly Oriental friends for this barbarism;"—but at the same time he finds some consolation in the fact that the "majority of his English readers will thank" him for adopting so simple and sensible a rule. We are obliged to Mr. Kaye for strengthening by his authority that resistance which we have

already thought it desirable to make to the innovation in question.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Indian Missions in Guiana. By the Rev. W. H. Brett.—A plain and earnest missionary, going abroad full of the idea which he is to deliver to strange races of men, and little prepared, we fancy, by previous studies, to turn to scientific account such opportunities as might fall in his way without seeking.—Mr. Brett has written a record of his life in Guiana with little pretension and as little merit. That part of South America is but slightly known,—while the manners and character of the native inhabitants are such as to awaken curiosity and interest. Even the glimpses here obtained of their changed condition since they came to live in closer proximity to Europeans create in us a desire to learn more from recent observers.

Farewell to the Outward Bound, addressed to some Members of the Church of England. By One of Her Ministers.—In this address the writer insists in striking terms on the duties which the vast extent of our Colonial empire—the multitude of races, strangers to the faith and civilization of Europe, with whom we are thrown into contact—may be held to impose on us as conquerors and settlers. But his main object seems to be—to suggest "hints for employment" during the long voyage out to Australia —the employment offered being, the daily reading of a series of "collects" with "parallel passages of Scripture." More than two-thirds of the volume is occupied with these exercises.

A general paragraph will suffice to dispose, as usual, of a number of works not requiring particular notice at our hands. Of this class of works we find on our table:—*A Defence of Revealed Religion; comprising a Vindication of the Miracles of the Old and New Testament from the attacks of Rationalists and Infidels.* By Joseph Brown, M.D.,—*Protestant Lectures on the Errors and Abuses of Romanism.* By the Revs. Charles Lane, William Curling, Denis Kelly, George Fisk, Henry Hughes, J. W. Watson, and Thomas Nolan,—*The History of Church Laws in England from 602 to 1850.* By Edward Muscott, a book of strange facts and suggestive inferences, that should be at the elbow of every public writer whose functions it is to pronounce judgment on the tolerance and intolerance of other nations,—*A New Guide to Richmond Park*, printed in three languages, English, French, and German, no doubt for the benefit of our foreign visitors,—*The Royal Preacher: Lectures on Ecclesiastes.* By James Hamilton, D.D.,—*Shaw's Union Officer's Manual for 1850.* Edited by W. C. Glen,—*The Priest Miracles of Rome: a Memoir for the Present Time*, consists of a trenchant life of Dunstan, the application of which to certain facts and personages of these times is forced out in every page and not without success,—*A Description of Chasseloup de Laubat's System of Fortification, as executed at Alessandria.* By J. I. Macaulay,—intended to accompany a large drawing of those famous military works,—*Ecclesia, and other Parables, &c.,*—*The Bible Unveiled,*—*The Collects Paraphrased*, a series of very weak and childish verses "for the use of young people,"—*Protective Measures in behalf of the Established Church*, considered in a Charge delivered by Richard Whately, D.D., Archbishop of Dublin,—*A Catechism on Gospel History.* By the Rev. Samuel Kettlewell; a work which, we are told, is intended "for those engaged in the work of Christian education, and who are desirous of implanting true Church principles,"—*The Creed of Christendom, its Foundations and Superstructure.* By W. R. Grey,—a thoughtful book on a great and difficult historical problem,—*The History of John Wesley's Coat, showing by whom it has been worn and how it has been trimmed*, very badly travestied from the immortal 'Tale of a Tub,'—*The Church of England in the Reigns of James the First and Charles the First*,—forming Part I. of Volume III. of 'The Library for the Times,'—*Ears of Corn from various Sheaves; being Thoughts for the Closet.* Edited by Sarah Lettis,—*Lectures on the Present Position of Catholics in England; Addressed to the Brothers of the Oratory.* By John Henry Newman, D.D., an elaborate exposition, which our contract with our readers happily makes it unnecessary for us to render or refute.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Adcock's Engineer's Pocket-Book for 1852, fc. 8vo. 6s. cl.
Almanack of the Fine Arts for 1852, by Buss, 12mo. 1s. swd.
Analysis and Summary of Old Testament History, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Arundines Cami, sive Musarum Cantabrigiensium, 8vo. 12s. cl.
Babylon and Jerusalem, from the German, fc. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Barker's (T.) Beauty of the Flowers in Field and Wood, 5s. 6d.
Barwell's (Mrs.) [illegible] in Everything, with Illustrations, sq. 3s. 6d.
Bible Coins, 8vo. 2s. 6d. in case.
Bon Gaultier's Book of Ballads, with Additions, 8s. 6d. cl. gilt.
Bowring's (J., LL.D.) Matins and Vespers, 4th edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d.
Brewer's (Rev. Dr.) Guide to Roman History, 18mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Brodie's (B. C., Bart.) Physiological Researches, 8vo. 5s. cl.
Brown's (J. B.) Views of Canada, 2nd edit. with Map, fc. 8vo. 4s. 6d.
Buff's (H.) Familiar Letters on Physics of the Earth, fc. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Burton's (Lieut.) Scenes in Scinde, 2nd edit. 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 12s. cl.
Chalmers (Dr.), Reminiscences of, by J. Anderson, cr. 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Collier's (J.) Fountain of Safety, fc. 8vo. 2s. cl.
Cumming's (Rev. J.) Voices of the Day, 5th edit. fc. 8vo. 7s. cl.
Encyclopædia Metropolitana, 'Method, Logic, and Rhetoric,' 5s.
Good Shepherd (The) and His Little Lambs, 2nd edit. sq. 3s. 6d. cl.
Gover's Hand Atlas of Physical Geography, 8vo. 12s. 6d. hd.
Hawker's (Rev. J., B.A.) Reminiscences of the Ministry, 12mo. 6s.
Hawthorne's (N.) The Scarlet Letter, sq. 1s. 6d. cl.
Hirsch's (P.) The Return of Ulysses, with Grammar, &c. 12mo. 6s.
Hirsch's (P.) Short Grammar of the German Language, 12mo. 2s.
Jullien's Album for 1852, roy. 4to. 14s. bds., 21s. cl.
Kitto's (Dr.) History of Palestine, new illust. edit. cr. 8vo. 6s. 6d.
Lamartine's History of Restoration of the Monarchy, Vol. 3, 5s. cl.
Lee's (Mrs.) Anecdotes of the Habits and Instincts of Animals, 6s.
Mitchell's (J.) Agricultural Analysis, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Montgomery's Church of the Invisible, 8th edit. roy. 32mo. 3s. 6d.
Moore's Irish Melodies, illust. by Maclise, sq. roy. 8vo. [illegible] cl.
Parlour Library, Vol. 63, 'Monsieur Violet,' by Marryat, 1s. bds.
Peter Parley's Annual, 1852, with coloured illust. sq. 5s. cl. gilt.
Peter Parley's The Birth-day Gift, sq. 2s. 6d. cl. gilt.
Pirate of the Mediterranean, by Kingston, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.
Plain Sermons by Clergymen of Church of England, Vol. 1, 3s. 6d.
Plato, The Apology of Socrates, &c., edit. by Dr. Smith, revised, 5s.
Richardson's (Sir J.) Arctic Searching Expedition, with coloured plates, 2 vols. 8vo. 31s. 6d. cl.
Rogers's (J.) The Vegetable Cultivator, new edit. fc. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Scott's Poetical Works, new illust. edit. with Life, 1 vol. fc. 8vo. 5s.
Scott's Tales of a Grand-Father, History of Scotland, illust. 12s. cl.
Scott's Tales of a Grand-Father, History of France, illust. 4s. cl.
Scripture Lessons on the Old Testament, 8vo. 6s. cl.
Sinnett's Picture of Paris, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Watson's (T., D.D.) Help to Family Prayer, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Wilson's (Bishop) The Lord's Supper, with Rubrics, 32mo. 2s. 6d.
Woolrych's (H. W.) Treatise of Legal Time, 8vo. 7s. 6d. bds.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—From the *last* Official Stamp Returns (published October, 1851), it appears that during the past year, 1850, the Stamps supplied to each of the under-mentioned Journals gave them an average Publication of—

Gardeners' Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette	[illegible]	Spectator	[illegible]
Observer	[illegible]	Morning Chronicle	[illegible]
Morning Advertiser	[illegible]	St. James's Chronicle	[illegible]
Mark Lane Express	[illegible]	Sun	[illegible]
Magnet	[illegible]	Morning Post	[illegible]
Bell's Banner	[illegible]	Express	[illegible]
Examiner	[illegible]	Gardeners' Gazette	[illegible]
Era	[illegible]	John Bull	[illegible]
Evening Mail	[illegible]	Mining Journal	[illegible]
Watchman	[illegible]	Atlas	[illegible]
Economist	[illegible]	Globe	[illegible]
Record	[illegible]	Herapath's Journal	[illegible]
Daily News	[illegible]	Railway Times	[illegible]
Morning Herald	[illegible]	Weekly Chronicle	[illegible]
Standard of Freedom	[illegible]	Standard	[illegible]
Britannia	[illegible]	Weekly News	[illegible]
Nonconformist	[illegible]	Patriot	[illegible]
		Gardeners & Farmers' Jour.	[illegible]

OFFICE of the GARDENERS' CHRONICLE AND AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE, 5, Upper Wellington-street, Strand, London.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

Despatches have been received from Mr. Rae, dated from Kendal River, June 10, containing an account of a journey which he made from Great Bear Lake to the Arctic Coast, and thence over the ice to Wollaston Land,—which he explored to the eastward of longitude 110°, and westward as far as longitude 117° 17'.

Mr. Rae left Fort Confidence on the 25th of April, accompanied by four men, with three dog-sledges, and a smaller one drawn by the men alternately, charged with the provisions and baggage. After some little detention from stormy weather, they started on the 30th of April for the coast, and reached the shores of Richardson's Bay, about five miles west of the Coppermine, on the 1st of May:—when they were gratified by finding that the ice to seaward was not unfavourable for travelling.

To preserve their eyes from inflammation arising from the glare of the sun on the snow, they walked during the night. They directed their course to Douglas Island,—which is a little to the north of Cape Krusenstern; and landing thereon, put *en cache* a quantity of provisions for their return. After this, they resumed their march in a north-easterly direction. After discovering some islands which Mr. Rae named after Sir John Richardson, they traversed a considerable bay with low shores, to which the name of Welbank was given. "There were now," says Mr. Rae, "two modes of proceeding open to me:—the one being, to strike overland to the north in search of the sea coast,—the other, to return along the coast and travel westward, in hopes that some of the spaces of Wollaston Land left blank in the charts might prove to be the desired strait." The latter route was adopted; and the southern shores of Wollaston Land were explored as far as 117° 6' 35" west longitude. When in latitude 69° 24' and longitude 116° 23' west, they fell in with thirteen Esquimaux lodges, and had an amicable interview with the inhabitants,—who were rather timid at first, but soon gained confidence. None of the women showed themselves; but all the men were well and cleanly dressed in deer skins. They were all very fat:—having evidently abundance of seal's flesh and fat,—large quantities of which were carefully deposited in seal-skin bags under the snow.

The greatest northing attained by Mr. Rae's party was 70° 0' 23". The period had now arrived for their return journey. On the night of the 30th of May they crossed over in as direct a line as the rough ice would permit, to the high rocky point north of Cape Krusenstern; and after a most disagreeable journey, during which they were continually fording rapid streams flowing in every hollow and valley, they reached Provision Station, Kendal River, on the 10th of June,—having travelled 942 English miles.

In consequence of the hurried manner in which Mr. Rae's despatch is written, arising from his anxiety to send it off at the earliest moment, it is very difficult to follow his precise route. An attentive perusal of his itinerary with the latest Admiralty chart before us leads us to regret that he should have devoted so much time to the examination of this trending of Wollaston Land to the westward, rather than to its exploration to the north:—for while he travelled to a little beyond the one hundred and seventeenth degree of west longitude, he extended his examination to the north only as high as the seventieth degree of latitude.

During the journey the little expedition had several further interviews with the Esquimaux,—all as friendly as the first.—On no occasion was any intelligence obtained of our missing countrymen.

A vast quantity of game was seen;—indeed, although supplied with pemmican, the principal food of the party was geese, partridges, and lemmings. A large musk bull was shot—the flesh of which was found excellent. Abundance of drift wood was found on the shores of the islands visited. The weather on the whole appears to have been propitious; and Mr. Rae states that his companions and himself are in a much better condition for commencing another journey of the same nature than when they left Fort Confidence.

It will be seen by our report to-day of the proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society, that a very daring plan of extending the search for Sir Sir John Franklin has been suddenly matured. Lieut. Pim—who served under Capt. Kellett in the Herald, which has lately returned from Behring's Straits—volunteered his services to the Admiralty to examine the shores of Siberia from the mouth of the river Kolyma to the extent of ten thousand miles as Lieut. Pim states in his paper, but as regards the coast line of only two thousand miles.

The Admiralty having judged proper to decline entertaining Lieut. Pim's plan, it was taken up by Lady Franklin,—who at once offered to place 500*l.* in Mr. Pim's hands. This will cover the expenses of his journey to the shores of Siberia.

His further proceedings, and indeed the successful accomplishment of his enterprise even to the mouth of the Kolyma, must depend on the amount of protection and patronage that he may receive from the Russian Government.

He is provided with strong letters of recommendation from Lord Palmerston and other influential persons to the Russian authorities;—and with these he purposes leaving London on the 18th instant for St. Petersburgh, and proceeding through the Russian dominions to the Arctic Coast.

We understand that this arduous undertaking has met with the approbation of many geographers;—but we are not sure that our eminent

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Arctic officers regard it in the same light. It is, in truth, a most hazardous expedition,—and is rendered more terrible in prospect by the fact that Lieut. Pim proposes being accompanied by only one or two men.—The importance of such a search, however, cannot in our opinion be disputed. For, assuming that Franklin passed up Wellington Channel, and into a polar basin, he would naturally steer for Behring's Straits; and failing to reach them, he might become entangled in ice, and be drifted in the direction of the coast of Siberia. But it would be highly desirable that Mr. Pim should not start on such an expedition as he proposes without proper precautions being taken to provide for his safety:—and this can be insured only by having depôts of provisions along the coast. We sincerely hope that the Russian Government—who are always disposed to encourage exploring expeditions—will place their resources at the disposal of Mr. Pim, and grant him all the assistance in their power:—but it is from the Admiralty at home that should come for this daring Expedition, as supplementary to that which they are about to send into the Wellington Channel, all the arrangements which may depend upon ourselves, and all further subsidies which may be necessary to eke out Lady Franklin's contribution.—If the Admiralty will not substantially support Lieut. Pim in this gallant attempt—as we contend they should, since they have given him leave of absence, and that implies approbation—we have, on information conveyed to us, good reason to believe that a further sum of 500*l.* will be raised among the Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society, at the suggestion of their President. Such of the public as take an interest in these (probably) last expeditions that will explore the Arctic Seas and coasts might well, too, come in aid of Lieut. Pim's enterprise:—so that the gallant officer may at least be furnished with all means and appliances that can lessen the peril of his adventure.

THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

The question as to what can and should be done with the surplus of the Exhibition is not yet settled. Difficult as it was to raise the preliminary fund, it threatens to prove much more difficult to dispose satisfactorily of the residue. The Royal Commissioners are not the first body of men who have felt the heavy responsibilities of sudden wealth; and, as is often the case in such matters, their embarrassments are greatly increased by the multitude of counsellors in whom there is no wisdom. Speculators of all kinds would appear to have been racking their brains during the last few months to invent eccentric uses for their golden harvest. Besides the many projects brought under notice of the Royal Commissioners through the press, we believe there is a large room entirely filled with the claims, proposals and pretences formally laid before them in writing. A selection from these proposals would form an amusing commentary on national tastes and individual vagaries.—The authorities in one obscure little town think that the surplus could not be so well employed as in the enlightenment of *their* town with gas. One individual considers the London Sewerage as the best claimant on the Commissioners' bounty,—another urges the Embankment of the Thames. A new Endowment of grammar schools has more than one strenuous advocate. Emigration, National pawn-shops on the plan of Continental *Monts de Piété*, Parks for the People, Discount Banks, Loan Societies, and Exploring Expeditions are among the schemes which, though remote from all the objects of the late gathering of nations, are not ridiculous. One projector has conceived the splendid idea of spending the money in gilding the dome of St. Paul's! A gigantic statue of Prince Albert is proposed. A national Soup-kitchen is proposed. A permanent Teetotal Congress is proposed. There is scarcely a hospital, a ragged school, a dispensary, a refuge for the destitute, in the country, which has not put in its title. Irish fisheries, Highland poverty, and Welsh quarries all fancy they have claims on such a fund not to be denied. Indeed, the amount and variety of crude and impossible suggestions are prescribed only by the natural limitations of human vagary and inconsistency.

If the area within which the money now at the disposal of the Royal Commissioners were not rigorously fixed, so as to allow them at once and without offence to set aside the great majority of schemes laid before them as simply alien to the purposes, antecedents, and relations of the industrial gathering, their position would be as disagreeable as it is onerous. Fortunately for themselves, the area *was* indicated,—almost the precise limits fixed. The surplus arising from the Exhibition, if any remained, it was prescribed, should be devoted to the formation of a fund for future Exhibitions of the same kind, or to other objects having a strict connexion with its chief purpose—the promotion of Art and Industry. There is room to move within a clear definition like this,—but not to stray and stagger about as many of the speculators seem willing to do. The Commissioners are bound to invest the money in the means of industrial education; and their discretionary powers are confined to the selection of the best vehicle through which this education can be effected,—whether by means of industrial colleges, of galleries of Art, of museums of practical science, of collections of produce, of schools of design,—or by an institution combining these and other things as departments, and forming in itself the first real, practical and comprehensive University. On the solution given to this problem will depend in a great measure the fate of the Crystal Palace.

Two points of importance have been already discussed and determined by the Royal Commissioners. They will not with the surplus buy the Crystal Palace for a winter garden:—and they will not expend any part of that surplus in the erection or endowment of schools of design. In coming to these resolutions they have been guided, as it appears to us, by sound judgment. A winter garden may be a very beautiful and desirable thing to have in a great city like London,—but few persons would find in such an ornamental appendage to the Park an object strictly connected with the late Exhibition. A school of design, at first thought, would seem to be strictly and legitimately connected with it; and to present an important field in which the time has now arrived to sow seed for future harvests. The towns specially interested in those manufactures which depend for market value on excellence and novelty of pattern have held meetings and passed strong resolutions in favour of an appropriation of the surplus having a better cultivation of the faculties of design in view. But the Commissioners very properly consider—what we have before urged—that, inasmuch as the money in question was raised by payments at the doors of persons from all nations, it would be unfair to expend the balance in a way which, however advantageous to this country, would certainly not be likely to produce beneficial effects for the Art and Industry of Continental Europe and America. Therefore they refuse to build or endow schools of design. It is not fitting that in rear of such an exhibition of her moral and material greatness as she has just made,—after such ready acquiescence and costly and courteous co-operation on the part of foreigners,—a great country like England should appear to be seeking an opportunity to turn the resulting fund to her own personal advantage. This would be ungenerous and unjust. Whatever is done with the fund should be done in the same spirit as the work which produced it. A catholic scheme, involving facilities and advantages to strangers as well as to natives, is the one thing desirable and desired;—and we find that Opinion is at length setting in the direction of a proposal, made by us so early as last May, for maintaining the Exhibition itself in a modified form as a permanent institution.

As most persons are aware, the Royal Commissioners possess under their old mandate no power to deal with the funds now in their hands. They have therefore applied to the Crown for a new commission,—which they will of course obtain in due time. In their Report, published in our columns last week, the Commissioners—after stating their total receipts to be in round numbers 505,000*l.*, their probable expenditure on all sides about 355,000*l.*, and the balance to be devoted to other objects about 150,000*l.*—express an opinion, as we ourselves did some weeks ago, that the balance ought not to be invested in favour of future Exhibitions. The Prince and his colleagues further declare, that in their "opinion no measures could be so strictly in accordance with the ends of the Exhibition as those which may increase the means of industrial education and extend the influence of Science and Art upon productive industry." They promise, when they shall have obtained a new charter, to give this point their fullest and best consideration,—so that the advantages to be obtained may not be confined to our own countrymen. Of course it would be premature to enter into speculations at this moment as to the probable nature of the scheme contemplated by the Royal Commissioners; but it is obvious that a system of education large enough to embrace England and the nations lately represented in our streets and parks must have a locality, a centre of action—a home. Then, as the Crystal Palace is up, and paid for, why not use that?—Here is a building of great beauty, extent and convenience, light, airy, free from dust,—unrivalled at once for novelty of conception and for historical renown, though it has lived but a single summer. Its glass and iron walls have been consecrated by the grandest event in history. It has cost a large sum of money. Why, then, setting aside the poetry, the romantic interests, the human affections which have sprung up around the edifice,—why should a practical people, not given to extravagant freaks of fancy in their money matters, waste—absolutely throw away—so much money as we must lose by pulling the building in Hyde Park down,—to build another? We have heard two reasons only given for such a course:—the desire of certain aristocratic dwellers in Kensington Road, who think it a nuisance,—and the sentimental idea which wishes to leave no material monument of the great fact of the age, lest it should be found to clash with the glorious recollection. We fancy neither of these reasons likely to find much favour with the general public. To the latter it might be replied, that this is not the age for destroying monuments. In every part of England we are trying to recover and restore our material records,—the landmarks of our historical course. We hail with satisfaction the discovery of an ancient mound, ruin, barrow, or battle-field. We take infinite pains to discover the marks of old encampments,—to preserve crumbling walls and mossy turrets,—to restore, or neutralize the necessary dilapidations of time in ancient mansions, castles and cathedrals. Even a humble cottage, a common grave-stone, an ordinary tree, if connected with an historical event or an eminent person, becomes to us an object of certain regard and care. How then can it occur, except as a poetic phantasy, to destroy the living monument of the most universally interesting event in our annals as a nation? It might be observed further, that the material records of the Exhibition cannot be destroyed. Though the best and most characteristic, the glass edifice is but one of its records. Every article there shown constitutes a record. Every model made of it is a record. Every medal struck in it is a record. The same sentiment, to be consistent with itself, must ask for the destruction of all these,—as they will each and all interfere with the poetic ideal of the Exhibition far more than the Crystal Palace. Nay, the destruction of all prints, pictures, illustrations, sketches, and so on, might be demanded on the same plea—that of leaving the fact to the future only as a wondrous dream! There seems to us to be a good deal more—and better—sentiment in the opposite view. Dr. Johnson was not much of a sentimentalist; yet he averred that it would give him pain to see an old post rooted up which had stood before his house, even if it were a nuisance there. Does any one suppose that the nation would witness without painful regret the demolition of a building round which their affections have so strongly grown,—if the building be convertible to uses which would give their sensibility the sanction of their sense?

The other class of iconoclasts are not so easily answered. A good house looking into the Park from all its windows is no doubt deprived of some of its advantages if the view be permanently interfered with, even by such a structure as that standing in front of Prince's Gate. But a capital suggestion, of a reconciling nature, has come from the *Times*. That paper proposes to remove the Kensington Barracks from the public road to some other site, and build a new National Gallery on the spot, flanked with handsome buildings and beautiful gardens. Other improvements might be made in connexion with it. The Treasury, we believe, lately proposed to the Royal Commissioners to contribute 150,000*l.* towards a fund for the purchase of Gore House and grounds, and the erection thereon of all the buildings necessary for a central Institution of Design, if they would devote their surplus to that purpose. The Royal Commissioners declined this offer, on the ground, already mentioned, that such a scheme would be purely English, while they held the fund at their disposal for purposes of a more universal interest and character. But this suggestion from the Treasury evidences a strong conviction in that office that a large sum of money is now required for the encouragement of design. Having gone so far, will the Treasury retire without doing something of itself?—Should it be determined to erect the National Gallery on the site of Kensington Barracks, and an Institute of Design farther west,—the Crystal Palace forming a centre and line of communication from one to the other,—Prince's Gate would become the most architectural and attractive quarter in the Metropolis.

Should the glass structure be bought for the nation—as it may be in view of such objects as they seem to have in purpose without violating any of the criteria which the Royal Commissioners apply to all projects that come before them,—and should it be found possible to make it water-proof and to keep it at a desirable temperature, and fit for the purposes proposed, — then there is no good reason to believe that the plans and suggestions given in our columns from time to time may not all be realized. The donations made by exhibitors—by men of all countries, and many of them of very great value,—to the Queen for her private use, to the Royal Commissioners to be dealt with at their option, to the Museum of Practical Geology, and to many other persons and institutions, prove that we were right when in May last we ventured the conjecture that if means could be found to purchase the Crystal Palace and proper guarantees should be given, very many of the contributors would willingly leave their articles for permanent exhibition in such a place. Nor do we think it yet too late to recover some part of the scattered treasures. Let the Commissioners announce their intention of forming in part of the glass building a collection of models, inventions, machinery, sculptures, produce, and so on,—and many of the articles lately the source of such unvarying public interest would doubtless find their way back to their old localities. The Koh-i-noor, the Russian malachites, and such costly articles would not of course be expected,—nor desired, —but we doubt whether any article of real social and industrial interest would be long wanting in such a collection.

EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

The notice relative to this Expedition which I communicated to you last week [*ante*, p. 1175] has been fully confirmed by the official reports to Lord Palmerston, and by private letters which have since been received from Dr. Barth and Dr. Overweg:—and it will be seen from the following *résumé* of the proceedings of those travellers that the results of their labours become every day more important,—they having arrived in a region the most commanding, in both a moral and a physical point of view, for the whole of the African continent.

Dr. Barth, in a letter to Dr. Beke, dated the 12th of April, 1851, in describing the kingdom of Adamaua, concluded his remarks thus:—"From all that I have heard it must be the most beautiful country of Central Africa. *Adamaua must be visited.*" Though this determination was probably not taken by any one of those who know the undaunted courage and perseverance of this distinguished traveller as an empty boast, yet no one who is aware of the immense difficulties of travelling in the countries to the south of Lake Tsad would have expected that about three months after —namely, on the 22nd of July—he would have returned to Kuka from a highly interesting and successful journey to Yola, the capital of Adamaua, and distant from the former place about 340 miles, —which it took him twenty days to travel. Dr. Barth has already sent a full official report of this important journey to the Foreign Office:—and it is to be hoped that the particulars may soon be published.

Dr. Barth started from Kuka on the 29th of May; and at a distance of about 100 miles came to the country of Marghi,—a remarkable Pagan nation of negroes, which frequently suffers from the *razzias* of the Fellatahs in the south as well as from the people of Bornu in the north. He also passed through Mora, the capital of Mandara, visited by Denham. Four days' journey before reaching Yola, he had to cross the two principal rivers of Adamaua, the Benué and the Faro; the former being half a mile broad and as much as ten feet deep, coming from the south and south-east,—and the latter, a tributary of the Benué, 5-12ths of a mile broad and from three to four feet deep. This magnificent river, the source of which was said to be nine days distant from the place where Barth crossed it, runs towards the Kawarn,—and is, in fact, the upper course of the Tschadda. Yola, the capital of the whole country and the residence of Mohammed Loel, the sultan of the Fellatahs, was reached on the 22nd of June. It lies on a marshy plain; but the country generally consists of pastures, here and there interspersed with cultivated fields. Although the people of Adamaua and Bornu are at enmity with each other, Dr. Barth, as a friend and *protégé* of the Sheikh of Bornu, was received very kindly by the inhabitants, as well as by the sultan:—who, however, could not but look with apprehension on the surveys and observations of the traveller. He was permitted to stay three days in the capital,—and on his leaving was treated with regard and honours.

Dr. Overweg had in the mean time most successfully explored Lake Tsad, in the Lord Palmerston—as he has named the boat, in grateful acknowledgment of his Lordship's patronage.

On the 7th of May, Dr. Overweg had arrived in Kuka,—where he was welcomed by his companions as one who had made himself already quite at home. They received from the sheikh a good house of large size to live in; and were supplied daily with plenty of mutton, rice, wheat, butter and honey. While Dr. Barth was preparing for his journey to Adamaua, Dr. Overweg, with the assistance of Arab carpenters, put the boat together. On the 18th of June, he embarked at Bree, eight miles east from Kuka;—the only place where an occasional trade is carried on between the inhabitants of Bornu and the Biddumas. Two of their boats happened to be in that harbour when the Lord Palmerston was launched. Dr. Overweg soon became friendly with their crews; and engaged some of the men as sailors and interpreters,—one of them, a very intelligent person, to remain with him afterwards as a servant. He started, accompanied by the two Bidduma boats, and reached, at a distance of twelve miles from Bree, the first of the islands,—of which there are about one hundred large ones scattered over the lake. They are wooded, and inhabited by the Biddumas, with their herds of cattle and goats. The shores are infested by numerous crocodiles and hippopotami. The dimensions of the lake were found by Dr. Overweg to be considerably smaller than those given by Denham:—from Bree to the east shore being only sixty miles, whereas in Denham's map it is more than double. These apparent discrepancies, however, may find their explanation in the remarkable nature of the lake:—it being an immense body of water which is greatly augmented in the rainy season, but in the season of drought evaporates so much that it seems at times to dry up entirely. This is an occurrence which is said to have happened six years ago. This fact would also seem to explain Dr. Barth's first impression of the lake, when he spoke of it as a marsh and of the Bidduma islands as meadow lands. The average depth of the lake is from ten to fifteen feet, and its waters are *fresh and clear*. Dr. Overweg was received with great kindness by the Biddumas on his landing at several of the islands, and during his visit to many of their villages.—On the 8th of August, he returned to Kuka.

The foregoing communications were despatched by courier from Kuka on the 10th of August, and reached Tripoli on the 5th of October:—being an interval of only fifty-six days.

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.

The following interesting letter from Dr. Barth has been put at our disposal by Dr. Beke.—

Kuka, July 25, 1851.

My dear Sir,—Earlier than I entertained the hope—and, indeed, earlier than I expected—am I returned from my journey to Adamawa. My return has been forced; Mohammed Loel, the governor of that country, having (as it seems) suspected my exploration of his province for two reasons. The one was, the claim made by the Sheikh in the letters of which my companion and escort Kashella Billáma was the bearer, to the long-disputed frontier territory; the other reason was, the circumstance that the Fellâtas of Adamawa have become but too well acquainted with the gun-armed "Insârah" on the shores of the Gulf of Benin. Thus it happened, that after a stay of only three days in Yōla, the residence of the governor of that country, I was obliged to make my retreat, greatly disappointed and in indifferent health; so that the results of this journey are not so extensive as I had entertained the enthusiastic hope they would have been. I trust, nevertheless, that my journey to Yōla will make a valuable addition to the knowledge of the geography of Central Africa. The two most important results of it seem to me to be,—first, the evidence that there is no idea of a continued chain of mountains running W.N.W. from Mount Mendif; second, that the question as to the connexion of the Niger with the Shary by means of the river of Adamawa (or the Tshadda, as it has been called in its lower course) is now altogether settled. I crossed the Benüe and the Fāro at the very point where they unite; the former coming from the east, a distance of about ten days,—while the Fāro has its sources in a mountain called Hosēre (the rock) Lābul, at a distance of seven days' journey south. Besides, by fixing the position of Yōla, a certain point has been obtained for the routes through the country, of which I sent you itineraries by the last kafla. I am now about to lay down my route in a sketch which I shall send to Government by the next caravan,—which is to leave in a fortnight; while my letters are to be sent to-morrow or the day after by a courier. The map and its itinerary will, I am sure, be of interest in many respects; for not only is the physical configuration of the country interesting, but the different nationalities are perhaps still more so.

Adamawa is indeed a fine country, with very extensive valley-plains of a most fertile soil; and, irrigated as it is by a rainy season of seven months' duration, it is immensely rich in pasture-grounds, and consequently full of cattle. With the exception of slaves, cattle form in fact the only wealth of the masters of the country; who wage continued —I might say daily—war with the pagans settled on the mountains. For, with the exception of the celebrated Mendif, and some remarkable peaks near it which appear to be steep calcareous peaks, quite bare and naked to the summit, all the mountains in Adamawa, as well as in Mandara, as far as I have been able to make out, consist of granite, and are covered all over with trees,—the more plain spots being cultivated. The most common produce of the country is *ghafūle*. Rice is also cultivated; for which the valley of the Benüe is well suited,—it being covered for forty days by the overflowing floods of the river, which rises to a height of from 40 to 50 feet. I can say almost with certainty, that there is gold in Adamawa; everybody having assured me that that precious

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metal is washed down by the Benŭe, though at this season at least it was not possible for me personally to ascertain the fact. There are, however, no snow-capped mountains:—Alantiga, which I saw in its whole extent at a distance of about 100 miles, appearing to me scarcely to reach the height of 9000 or 10,000 feet in its highest part. Neither does that mountain, which had been represented to me as a volcanic one, appear to contain anything of the sort. But it is quite true that it contains hot springs.

At Yóla, a prospect opened to me of alluring magnitude. I there met a very amiable Arab, Shereef Mohammed ben Akmedu, a native of Mokha, in Yemān, who had travelled all over the eastern shores of the African continent, from Djard Hafūn as far down as Sofāla, and had penetrated from Mozambique to Nyassi,—and who, being well acquainted with the character of the English, declared himself ready, for a sum of 300 dollars to be paid at Zanzibar, to try to penetrate with me across the continent, in the direction of that magnificent lake. For, Nyassi being the great centrum of the commerce of an immense part of Southern Africa, I am sure we should have to go scarcely a month's journey from Bain in that direction before we fell into a very frequented road proceeding towards that market. As it now is, I must content myself with giving you my friend's itinerary from Mozambique to Nyassi,—which, as far as I know, is quite new. I should have been able to give you many corrections for that part of the continent, if the order of the governor had not driven me away from Yóla. But I entertain strong hopes of seeing my Shereef again.

Itinerary of the Route from Mozambique to Lake Nyassi, on foot.

1st day.—Sleep at *Sembe* on the coast, after having crossed the channel.

[It is not deemed necessary to give this route in full].

22nd.—Sleep on the shore of the river *Luwūma*, containing water at all seasons of the year.

23rd.—Between one and two o'clock, enter the territory dependent on the tribe of the Muhiaw, commencing at the village of Mokoiyaiha.

28th.—Arrive on the banks of the *Luyinde*, a rivulet issuing from a large lake called Killūa, and joining the Luwūma.

32nd.—Sleep in a village situated in another mountain chain after having, about noon, passed a very broad ancient road,—having the appearance of a dry watercourse, but without being of that character; winding round and avoiding the mountains, its direction being from S. to N. This road, respecting which my informant was quite full of astonishment, and which is the common talk of the people of all the country round as being a monument of former ages, is called *Mulila*.

33rd.—A steep descent from the village where the last night was passed, brings you about noon down to the shore of the magnificent lake Nyassi. You sleep in the village of Moāla, where a much frequented market is held, though the great market-place of Nyassi is Ngómbo, three days north from Moāla. A white rock rises in the lake, not far from Moāla.

In crossing the lake from Ngómbo to its western side, where the capital of the Sultan of Nyassi is situated, you pass one night on an island in the middle of the lake.

The lake neither rises nor falls at any season of the year. My informant thinks it most probable that the Nile takes its origin from this lake, though he did not visit the northern portion of it.

To the W.—according to my informant,—but as he says he travelled directly west in going from Mozambique to Moāla, it would seem rather to be W.N.W.—from lake Nyassi he heard of *another extensive lake called Timbáze*, distant about a month's journey.

Thus much about my own proceedings:—now, a word about Dr. Overweg's. During my absence he got the boat ready; and he is now sailing on and exploring the lake of Central Africa and its shores, under the protection of the Kashella Fuggo Ali of Meduwāri (with whom I had previously explored the shores of the lake where it was still very shallow,) and guided by some Buddūma chiefs. On account of the strong winds,—which did not allow the Buddūma boats to proceed, while the English boat is said to have tacked about in every direction under full sail,—it took him nine days to go from Kawa, the village by the shore of the lake on this side, to the chief town of the Buddūmas—who (it is said) everywhere do him the greatest honour,—at the same time admiring the structure of that strange boat.

The results with which I expect him back in a few days will be of the greatest interest for the whole geography of Central Africa; and I am sure the English public, as well as the Government, will see that the German scientific travellers are well worth a little assistance in their arduous undertakings. God be praised! supplies to the amount of 100*l*. have at length arrived by a very circuitous route: others of like value, sent by the direct road of Bilma,—together with letters and news from our friends in Europe, of which we are sadly in need,—have not yet arrived.

After having made the tour of the lake by land, I shall try, if possible, to penetrate southward, by the route from Baghrimmi, Bangbay, and Somrai,—of which I have sent an Itinerary to Mr. Petermann.—I have another most important Itinerary from hence by way of Loggun to Somrai and further south, which is of the greatest interest for the course of the Shary; but at present I have no leisure to communicate it. At Kūka, the rainy season, properly speaking, ought to have commenced; but all is still dry here,—though two days further south everything has already become green, and the crops are shooting. For one month to come, nothing is to be done but to occupy ourselves with inquiries, languages, &c.—Yours, &c.,

DR. BARTH,
'ABD EL KEREEM.

THE BARONESS VON BECK.

SINCE our last article on the subject of the late Baroness von Beck, Mr. Bentley has found among his papers the letter so often referred to in the course of this controversy—conveying the opinion of M. Pulszky, when applied to as Hungarian agent in this country, on the question of the value of the deceased Lady's Narrative of the war. In the face of what has been said during the course of this discussion, the terms of that letter are nearly incredible. This week we can only lay it before our readers:—and indeed they should have some little time for its digestion. Next week, we shall have something to say by way of comment. The letter, as now printed, is as follows.—

"It is difficult to give a satisfactory opinion on the MS. you sent me yesterday (and which I returned this afternoon) without knowing whether it forms a portion of a work, or is intended for insertion in the *Miscellany*. The narrative is to be relied upon, excepting inaccuracies in the spelling of the names and the like. The lady had peculiar opportunities of noting events of a romantic character; and her MS contains the materials for some very interesting sketches, which probably might be advantageously inserted in your *Miscellany*. But the whole must be re-written—re-cast in English (at least, such is my opinion after a very cursory glance). Don't let this be any obstacle if you think the MS worth printing. My own opinion is, that the materials are quite worth a little pains. The lady, I know, was personally acquainted with Kossuth, and I have every reason to think highly of her."

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ONE of the greatest facts of the day is certainly the extensive and systematic emigration which is taking place from these islands to America and Australia. We learn from the report of the Registrar-General, just issued, for the three months ended 30th September last, that during those three months 85,603 emigrants sailed from the several ports of the United Kingdom at which Government emigration agents are stationed. An emigration of this magnitude is at the rate of nearly 1,000 persons a day:—930 is the exact number. It is probable that one-half of the total number of these emigrants were Irish. The United States is still the great point of destination of the swarms who leave our shores. Out of the 85,603 emigrants above mentioned, no less than 68,960 sailed for the Atlantic ports of the Union;—and the remaining 16,643 were distributed in the proportions of 9,268 to British North America, 6,097 to the Australian colonies, and 1,278 to other places. So far, the total emigration of 1851 has exceeded that of the corresponding period of 1850—and the emigration of 1850 exceeded that of any former year. In point of fact, the business of emigration has now become a great branch of our commerce. It is probable, for example, that the 85,000 persons conveyed from the United Kingdom during the last official quarter would require between 600 and 700 ships for their accommodation; and it is not difficult to imagine the extensive ramifications of employment which enter into the full equipment of such a fleet for such a purpose. The emigration from Ireland is a phenomenon which is peculiar,—and can be properly understood only by entering on a wider inquiry than at present we can undertake. But the continuance of an extensive emigration from England and Scotland in years like the present of cheap food and good employment, seems to justify the inference that the facilities for reaching remote regions and colonies have at length become so great, and the diffusion of an accurate knowledge of the advantages offered to enterprising men in those new fields of activity so general among certain classes of our population, that emigration has ceased to be the sudden and irregular expedient of difficult times, and is rapidly assuming all the solidity of a system. For the last three or four years, the total emigration of each twelvemonth has exceeded 300,000 souls.—While alluding to this subject, we must not omit to draw the attention of the Emigration Commissioners to the slovenly and illegible manner in which their official "Circular" of Information for emigrants is compiled and printed. It ought to be remembered that that Circular is intended for the use and guidance of comparatively illiterate persons; and surely it would be worth while to bestow a little pains in rendering its contents as full and plain as possible, and to use a type and paper which would not make the task of perusal positively painful.

Some of our readers will be interested in learning that Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, of Cleator, has offered a prize or scholarship, of 100*l*. to every student of the Manchester New College who shall hereafter obtain a gold medal in University College, London. As four gold medals may be obtained each year in the University, it will be perceived that Mr. Ainsworth's offer is one of no common liberality. In a letter to the Rev. R. Brook Aspland, one of the secretaries of the College, he states that the prize will be given by him from year to year, and will in all probability die with him, as he is not friendly to endowments; and that he offers the prize not as a stimulus to greater exertion on the part either of professors or of students, having already reason to be satisfied with the portion taken by the students of the college,—but in the hope of inducing young men of talent, by the prospect of these scholarships, to enter themselves at Manchester New College.

On Thursday the sub-marine telegraph between Dover and Calais was completed throughout,—and was immediately opened to the general public.

Hitherto both King's College and Marischal College, Aberdeen, have been in the habit of issuing medical degrees. King's College, however, has frequently contested the right of Marischal College to issue such degrees, on the ground that the right is not formally provided for in the charter of the college. Marischal College has always answered, that both by usage and by implication from its charter, which grants the power of issuing other degrees, this right of granting medical degrees belongs to her. Now, however, the controversy is to be brought to a decision,—as the authorities of King's College have been circulating handbills declaring all medical degrees issued at Aberdeen and not bearing the sign-manual of King's College to be invalid. Apparently, Marischal College must go to law to vindicate its rights, and one medical practitioner in Aberdeen has publicly called on the college to do so, or refund the fees which he paid for his degree.

We see with pleasure that the Senatus Academicus of the University of St. Andrews has unanimously conferred the honorary degree of

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Doctor of Laws on Mr. Daniel Wilson, author of the 'Archæology and pre-historic Annals of Scotland.'

The General Board of Health has issued an edict against cellars. In Liverpool, Leeds, Glasgow, and other of our large towns, the cellars are the sources of many diseases;—their damp floors, foul air, cold walls are the prime ministers of cholera, dysentery, influenza and scarlet fever. Nowhere is the sanitary reformer needed more. It is matter of great regret that the provisions of the Public Health Act in reference to these abominations have hitherto been so insufficiently enforced; and now that the Board have at length stirred in the case, it may be hoped that a due regard will be shown for public decency and health as well as for the vested rights of individuals. Let us remind parties interested in the sort of property in question that the act makes it unlawful to let or occupy as a dwelling any vault, cellar or underground room, built or rebuilt after the 31st of August 1848, or not let or occupied before that date,—and any person so letting or occupying is liable to indictment. It further provides that no underground chamber that is not seven feet in height, of which three feet must be above the level of the street—that has not an open area of two feet six along its entire frontage—that is not drained, warmed and ventilated in the manner prescribed—shall be inhabited, notwithstanding that such room may have been inhabited hitherto. The penalty for neglecting these provisions is 20*s.* a-day, where there is a local Board of Health. We understand that in future the Board mean to enforce this penalty on all offenders.

A correspondent who signs himself A. Hall White, and dates from Harlow, has written to point out certain inaccuracies into which he says our correspondent S. A. has fallen in that account of her summer drive through "English Highways and By-ways" which appeared in our columns a fortnight ago, [*ante*, p. 1148]. Gilbert White, he says, was not buried in the Church of Selbourne,—but in a grave on the north, or unfashionable, side of the churchyard.—All the brothers of Gilbert, he adds, "were not buried at Selbourne:"—three certainly were not.—And finally he says:—"three of his brothers are living,—of whom I am one."

A few weeks ago we announced that the Royal Netherlands Institute of Sciences, Letters and Fine Arts had petitioned the King of Holland, in consequence of their limited income, for letters of dissolution. The King has taken the Institute at its word, and granted letters which fix the 31st of December next for the term of its existence.—From the 1st of January 1852, the Institute will be replaced by a Royal Academy, which will specially devote itself to exact and natural sciences. This body will receive from the state an annual grant of 6,000 florins. It will be composed of twenty-six ordinary, twenty-two extraordinary, and five free members. There are to be eighteen foreign members,—and an unlimited number of correspondents.

In a vast metropolis like London, with suburbs like cities, and miles of villa residences stretching out in every direction towards the country, no question of internal regulation can well exceed in importance that which determines the nature, speed, and cost of the public conveyances. The omnibus and the cab are sanitary means,—and something more. Without them London as it is would be an impossibility. Like Berlin, Paris, or Vienna, it would be cooped up in comparatively narrow bounds,—the limitation of time and the necessities of business acting as barriers, beyond which only leisure and fortune would be able to expatiate for the physical blessing of pure air and the moral suggestiveness of tree and flower. The cab and the omnibus have opened up the picturesque beauties of Hampstead, Norwood, Putney, Blackheath, and many another delicious suburb to men who must otherwise have made their habitations on the borders of the Fleet River or amid the amenities of Cheapside. In its contentment with vehicles to which it owes so much, the public has been disposed to overlook matters of detail,—such as their general want of safety, comfort and economy. Consequently, while every other branch of public service has been forced into reforms and reductions within these dozen years—railways, steamers, Post Office, &c.,—the cab has undergone no change, and the omnibus, in London at least, no improvement. At present nearly all the London cabs are in the hands of men without character. The legal fare is too high, but the actual fare demanded is much higher; demanded, too, often in the coarsest and most insulting terms. At length we are glad to hear that a reform is to take place in this matter, such as promises to meet effectually most of the existing evils. The fare is to be reduced to fourpence a mile,—at which rate the calculations show a fair profit to the company; and the men are to wear some sort of livery, as they do in foreign cities, and be subject to a strict discipline. To render the reduction of fare a reality, and to avoid every occasion for disputes as to the distance travelled, an indicator is to be provided for every cab, showing the number of miles gone over. By these simple contrivances the cab may be redeemed from the disrepute into which it has lately fallen, notwithstanding its convenience. The ranks may be no longer crowded with idle men and horses two-thirds of the day. More cabs must be required for the service, as also more cabmen and more horses,—and thus many industries may be beneficially stimulated by the change. It will be no slight advantage of the new system that a lady will be able to call a cab without fear of insult or extortion from the driver.

Two curious instances of the favour that Literature and Art are to receive from the Ultra-Montane party on the continent of Europe occur in our correspondence this week. From Paris we learn that a relative of Mr. Gladstone has been excluded from a *cercle*, or club, in that city by the priestly party, because his uncle, the member for Oxford, had the courage to denounce the senseless tyranny of the Neapolitan government!—The other instance amounts to the grotesque. It is the case of a young Roman artist who is banished from Rome for the crime of being called Giovanni Mazzini! The very name of the late Triumvir—it would seem—is about to be proscribed in the Roman States, as that of Macgregor was time gone by in the northern part of our own island.—To the question "What's in a name?" the Roman government gives a very significant and practical reply.

A Correspondent writes to us as follows.—"Since the navigation of the river Po has become somewhat free, the great importance of this communication becomes every day more apparent. It is to Cavalier Negrelli that not only the treaties for the liberation of this river, but also the many hydrographic works thereon, are owing. It is not the Po alone on which the activity of the renowned engineer is turning;—the Ticino, the Adda, the Mincio, the Trebbia and the Panono will be alike rendered available for traffic. Hitherto, goods sent from the Adriatic to Milan were nearly eight weeks on the road:—the time has been already shortened to as many days,—and may yet be further reduced. The Po even in the driest season is navigable for steamboats to its very embouchures; and only at one of its mouths will hydraulic aid be required. When the communication of the Po with the Adriatic shall be once fairly established, its confluents and adjacent lakes will form a net of inland communication spreading over the whole of upper Italy, and reaching even to the recesses of the Alps."

The readers of the *Athenæum* will have a lively remembrance of the smart, summary and somewhat unscrupulous assertions which give a high flavour to the literary communications of the author of 'Revelations of Russia.' It may amuse them, then, without doing any particular harm, to hear—as a sequel to the discussion on which we were compelled to enter in our examination of Sir Francis Head's book relating to the national defences—a story—or rather, two stories—communicated to the *Daily News* by that sanguine chronicler,—and vouched *suo periculo*, as his manner is. According to the authority in question, England would seem, after all, to have been living on the verge of a French invasion under a succession of governments,—and the destruction of London appears to be a familiar idea with statesmen of all *régimes* across the water. —The first story undertakes to account for that memorable letter of the Duke of Wellington's which frightened the more nervous part of the isle from its propriety and very much astonished the rest. Till now this somewhat remarkable movement of the Commander-in-Chief had not been accounted for. It is intimated, however, by the author of 'Revelations of Russia' that in considering by what means the dynasty of Louis Philippe could be secured in France, a favourite plan was, the invasion of England and the conquest of her capital by a sudden stroke:—and the knowledge of this scheme, it now appears, was the inspiration—and we think very sufficient justification—of the Duke's letter. The writer rises with the discussion of his theme,—and his "Revelations" grow more curious and circumstantial.—"Ledru Rollin," he says "when a member of the Provisional Government, was one evening much occupied, when an African general, who refused to give his name, was announced as desiring a private interview. Ledru Rollin replied that he was engaged till two in the morning; to which the stranger rejoined, that he would wait. When at length the general (whom Ledru Rollin did not know personally) was admitted, he introduced himself as General Changarnier. 'How is it, general,' inquired the minister, 'that you have left your African government?' 'I know,' replied the general, 'that I ought to be there. I have come under the pretext of visiting the death-bed of a near relative, but really for the sole purpose of seeing you.' Here the general proceeded to explain that, for several years past, the dream of his life had been the invasion of England; that he had sent agents to levy plans, survey harbours, and obtain information on the minutest points connected with the topography and defences of the country. Basing his calculations on these data, he judged the capture and destruction of the British metropolis feasible, was anxious to attempt it, and came to entreat of Ledru Rollin the means of putting his project into execution. Ledru Rollin remarked that such matters were not within his province; but Changarnier answered him, that, nevertheless, he could collect 12,000 men belonging to regiments which had served under his orders in Africa, and obtain for them means of transport on his (Ledru Rollin's) sole order. The general expressed himself further satisfied that with this force he would be able to make a swoop on Woolwich, burn the shipping in the docks, and destroy or capture astonished London. He added, that, in case of failure, he permitted Ledru Rollin and his colleagues to disavow him, and pledged his word of honour as a soldier that if he were tried, hanged, or shot, he would die without criminating his employers. Ledru Rollin replied that he had also formerly entertained the notion that France must some day avenge the disasters of Waterloo; but that at present peace with Great Britain was the wish and policy of the French people, and that in any case it appeared to him that it was only on a fair field, with an armed enemy, that France could vindicate her honour, not by an act of piracy, or by barbarously injuring the lives and property of peaceful citizens." —In this view of the case we think Ledru Rollin was right:—and we dare say our neighbours across the Straits, who have just returned home after fraternizing with us in a spirit which we entirely trust, are as much amused at these pictures of themselves and their leaders as we are at the constant distortions of ourselves which appear in the periodical mirrors of Continental literature. The high road to London is wide open to the Frenchman —as he now largely and practically knows,—and the welcome of a friend awaits him when he comes there:—why should he seek to reach it by a more difficult path and in a less worthy guise? It is true that the English war-steed has been stabled in the streets of Paris,—but not with England's will nor by England's mere strength. That was the recoil of Europe against the most marvellous feat of force that ever a nation achieved, — but which France is nobler in her aspirations now than to wish to repeat.—We must say, however, that the idea of a French descent on London—whenever our neighbours may prefer putting their foot on us to going hand in hand with us on the path of moral and material progress—is not without its compen-

eating element in our minds. To a certain extent the interests of the two nations are identical. We take for granted that whether General Changarnier or the Prince de Joinville shall head the invading troops along Piccadilly, the demolition of the bronze caricature of the Duke of Wellington on the Arch at Hyde Park Corner may be deemed certain. War has generally been considered unfavourable to the arts:—our readers may here see the proverbial exception. The danger is, that a nation so accomplished in epigram as the French should see that a keener vengeance would be to leave us the scarecrow. Looking at the amount of misery daily endured by thousands in passing the corner of Grosvenor Place, and the amount of foreign ridicule of which it yet hears the echoes, we question if the emancipation of our children from this absurdity would not be cheaply purchased at the price of an invasion.

ENGLISH ART.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec.
Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—*Nov.* 12.—Sir R. I. Murchison, Pres., in the chair.—Lieut. Pim, R.N., described his plan of an Expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, as follows.—I have been invited to lay before you a detailed plan for discovering some traces of Sir John Franklin's Expedition; and shall commence by stating the circumstances which gave rise to the belief that the missing ships are to be found, not on the coast of America,—but on that of Asia.—While on board H.M. ships Herald and Plover, exploring the arctic regions, the fate of Sir John Franklin was daily the subject of consideration; and I could not but be struck with the fact, that the plans adopted for the relief of that gallant little band had been based on the supposition that the Erebus and Terror had failed in the very commencement of their voyage. I, however, was impressed with the idea that success up to a certain point had crowned an enterprise conducted by a man combining bravery unmatched with perseverance, skill and science, rarely found,—and who had for his companions men justly considered the flower of the British navy. In fine, I was convinced that Sir John Franklin would not be found on the *threshold* of the north-west passage:—and consequently applied myself to the consideration of where he would have to be looked for.—Wrangel's narrative having been perused attentively, the fact that Wrangel, as well as Anjou, found an open sea in several places during the cold season in comparatively high latitude impressed itself on me.—The course of the isothermal lines also, as deduced from various observations by modern philosophers, and the opinion of Col. Sabine, as well as that of other men of science, of the existence of open water around the pole,—afforded a clue to the probable course of Sir John Franklin:—since strengthened, it may be added, by Capt. Penny's discovering northward of Wellington Channel a sea free from ice. It is gratifying to state that Admiral Sir F. Beaufort's opinion is the same. In a letter lately received, he makes the following remarks:—

"I have at all times, both publicly and privately, expressed my conviction that if the Erebus and Terror should succeed in passing through Wellington Channel, they would find the Northern Ocean comparatively free from ice, and find it an easy matter to penetrate to the westward. Franklin's difficulties would therefore begin when, having made his westing, he might endeavour to haul to the southward for Bhering's Straits;—for Cook, Beechey, Kellett, and all navigators who have passed through that opening, found the soundings decrease on approaching the southern edge of the ice,—making it almost demonstrable that a bank of some hundreds of miles in length, and most likely rising up in many islands, stretches across from west to east. If those ships, therefore, did find their way through Wellington Channel,—they have got into some labyrinth of ice and islands abreast of Bhering's Straits, or further west on the flats off the coast of Siberia."

From this opinion of Sir F. Beaufort, and taking all other circumstances into consideration, it appears to me that Sir John Franklin having passed through Wellington Channel attained the Polynia, or open water,—and would then naturally steer to the westward, and when reaching the meridian of Bhering's Straits, re-enter the ice in order to penetrate to the Pacific Ocean. Difficulties, however, would again impede his progress. Embayed in the frozen masses which have checked the advance of every navigator from the earliest to the present time, he would be at the mercy of the winds and currents, rendering it problematical to which coast he would be driven, whether to that of the new or that of the old world. The endurance, hardihood and courage of a Richardson, a Kellett, a Pullen and a Rae have afforded negative evidence that the coast of Northern America is *not* the country where the final settlement of the question—what has become of Sir John Franklin? must be determined:—the next place, therefore, to which attention turns is Siberia.—Wrangel's narrative proving that pieces of wreck have been found on the Asiatic shores, and historical accounts stating that various Russian Expeditions experienced the greatest difficulties in penetrating even a short distance easterly, make it evident that the very course which produced that effect upon the Russian vessels would bring about an opposite result upon any ships which may happen to be about the meridian of Bhering's Straits:—consequently that a well organized search of the Asiatic shores would afford results highly satisfactory. H.M. ship Herald, after an absence of six years, having returned to England after three times visiting Bhering's Straits without more success than the squadrons on the eastern side of America, and the fate of Sir John Franklin being still wrapped in mystery,—I considered it my duty to make known the above conviction, and to submit to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a plan for obtaining traces of the missing Expedition. My proposal was, to start on the 15th of this month and travel by way of St. Petersburgh, Moscow, Tobolsk, Irkutz and Jakoutz to the mouth of the Kolyma, lat. 68° 31′, long. 16° east,—and thence to commence exploring the coast of Siberia, east and west from Siviero Vostotchinii Nos, or north-east cape of Asia, to Cape North of Cook,—altogether a distance of 10,000 miles. I did not ask for a party,—but merely a companion and a servant; and I stated that the expense attending the journey would be trifling in comparison with the result which it appeared to me to promise. To my great disappointment, the Admiralty, though thanking me for my suggestion, declined to undertake the execution of the plan. Lady Franklin, however, impressed with the hope of obtaining some satisfactory intelligence, requested me to carry out my proposal by private means. Unlimited leave of absence for the purpose having been readily granted by the Admiralty, I have no hesitation in responding to her desire. The funds which Lady Franklin was able to devote to this Expedition amounted to no more than 500*l.*:—a sum obviously inadequate to such an undertaking. It was therefore determined to use that money for fitting out the Expedition, and to appeal to His Imperial Majesty of Russia to assist in effecting this object:—Lady Franklin considering that even should the appeal be unsuccessful, the funds would have been appropriately expended in so legitimate an attempt to rescue her unfortunate husband and the gallant men who accompanied him.

The President of the Royal Geographical Society, Sir Roderick Murchison, at once perceiving the nature of my plan, fully entered into my views; and his extensive knowledge of Russia, and the many introductions which he has given me to the most influential men and Societies in St. Petersburgh, afford me sanguine hopes of success.—Accordingly, it is my intention to proceed to St. Petersburgh on the 18th instant, to present letters and to enlist the sympathy of the Russian Government in the cause. My original plan has, however, undergone some modification. Mr. Berthold Leemann, late naturalist of H.M. ship Herald, was ready to accompany me on the journey; but having engaged himself to produce several works connected with the voyage of H.M. ship Herald, he was unable to assist in a plan which had often formed the topic of our earnest conversation. I am now compelled to proceed alone, and look forward to companions provided by the Imperial service of Russia.—Supposing that the negotiations with the Court of Russia terminate favourably, my track would lead from St. Petersburgh to Moscow by railway,—from Moscow to Irkutz by sledge or sledges, a distance of 3,544 miles,—and from Irkutz to Jakoutz also on sledges, a distance of 1,824 miles. The whole journey occupying about four months.—At Jakoutz all regular travelling conveyances terminate,—and the 1,200 miles to the river Kolyma as well as the 2,000 miles of search will have to be performed in a manner best adapted to the resources of the country. In 1854 the task may be completed, if unfortunately before that time no traces should have been found. In the interval I shall lose no opportunity to apprise the Royal Geographical Society of my proceedings:—and I take this opportunity of soliciting the members to furnish me with advice or information respecting a country so little known.—I have thus briefly stated a plan that has occupied my most serious attention; and although reluctant to intrude any personal notice, I must remark that if my hopes of success may seem too sanguine, the fact of my undertaking without any pay from Government or personal remuneration from Lady Franklin the execution of the project, is sufficient to show that I am not merely a theorist, but a man ready to carry his plans into practical execution to the utmost of his abilities.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—*Nov.* 3.—J. O. Westwood, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. J. Hunter was elected a Member.—The President exhibited a living larva of *Hammaticherus Heros*, which had been forwarded to him from Pembroke Dockyard by Sir T. Pasley, having been found in an Italian oak that was being cut up.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited a new British coleopterous insect, *Dircæa discolor*, and the rare British lepidopterous insect, *Gracilaria phasianipennella*, both taken this year in Scotland by Mr. Weaver. He also exhibited three specimens of *Helops pallidus* (Curtis), found at Tenby by the Rev. H. Burney.—Mr. E. Shepherd exhibited some specimens of *Aporophila Australis*, &c., and a pale variety of the female *Colias Edusa*, all captured this autumn near Deal.—Mr. Smith exhibited some oak leaves with galls, commonly known as oak spangles, attached; in one of these galls he had found a larva, most probably that of *Cynips longipennis*, an insect hitherto only obtained in the perfect state.—Mr. Wilkinson exhibited the cases and females of a species of Talæporia, and also the young larvæ (with their cases) produced from eggs laid by the females without male intercourse.—Mr. White exhibited some specimens of Crustacea, including *Idotea Baffini*, *Acanthronotus hystrix*, *Amphithœ Edwardsii*, Nymphon (new species), collected by C. Ede, Esq., lately Assistant-Surgeon to H.M.S. Assistance, returned from the Arctic regions. He exhibited some drawings by Mr. Ede of minute Crustacea, including a species of Cyclopseira, which Dr. Baird thinks may prove the type of a new genus. He also exhibited an unpublished plate of Crustacea and insects, which will shortly appear in Mr. Macgillivray's 'Voyage of H.M.S. Rattlesnake.' He exhibited likewise a portrait of Jules César Savigny, Member of the Academy of Sciences, and one of the *savans* employed during the French Expedition to Egypt, and he gave a short account of his valuable labours and published works.—Mr. Douglas exhibited specimens of a new species of Ephestia, which he had found in a bonded warehouse at Botolph Wharf, and which Mr. Doubleday had reared from dry Turkey figs.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*Nov.* 11.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—The

paper read was, 'An Investigation of the Strains upon the Diagonals of Lattice-beams, with the resulting Formulæ,' by Mr. W. T. Doyne and Prof. W. B. Blood. — The President recalled to those gentlemen who had been recently elected the engagement entered into on their election to present original communications, books, &c., in order to promote the interest of the meetings, or increase the library.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Statistical, 8.—'On the Duration of Life amongst the Clergy,' by W. A. Guy, M.B.
— Chemical, 8.
— Royal Academy, 8.—Anatomical Lecture.
— British Architects, 8.
Tues. Linnean, 8.
— Pathological (Council), 7.
— Civil Engineers, 8.—'Description of a new Metallic Manometer, and other Instruments for measuring Pressures and Temperatures,' by M. Eugène Bourdon, of Paris.
Wed. Geological, half-past 8.—'Additional Observations on the Slate Rocks of Devon and Cornwall,' by Prof. Sedgwick.—'Description of a curious Fossil Fern, from the Coal-Measures of Cape Breton,' by C. J. F. Bunbury, Esq.—'On the Erratic Blocks of the South Highlands of Scotland,' by W. Hopkins, Esq.
Thurs. Royal, 8½.
— Antiquaries, 8.
Fri. Philological, 8.
Sat. Medical, 8.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

Government School of Mines and of Science applied to the Arts.

On the 7th of this month the active labours of those connected with this institution commenced:—an inaugural address being delivered by Sir Henry De la Beche, Director-General of the Geological Survey and of the Museum of Practical Geology, to a numerous auditory. The general bearing of this address was in favour of the extension of a system of industrial education:—for which the Museum of Practical Geology, with its extensive and constantly increasing collections, was shown to be peculiarly adapted. Its examples of natural mineral produce and of manufactures therefrom were stated to be now very extensive;—and it was shown how all these could be made available with advantage under the educational guidance of the respective Professors. The advantages of a scientific education to all who are likely to be engaged in the industrial arts was strongly insisted on by Sir Henry De la Beche; and numerous instances were given of serious losses and failures arising from the want of that kind of knowledge which is intended to be conveyed in this institution.

The following quotation from the address fully explains the principles by which it is proposed to conduct this School of Mines and Applied Science.—

In these days when ocean steamers, railways, and electric telegraphs are transporting man or his thoughts from region to region, with a certainty and despatch not deemed probable even a few years since, and when a great Industrial Exhibition has just closed after a most brilliant career — an exhibition which could not have existed without these and similar aids to the progress of mankind—it might appear superfluous to point to any application, even those of the highest sciences, as contributing to the well-being of our kind, as if that sufficient reason could not be applicable for further advance, for modifying the practice under differing conditions, or for pointing out the cause of failure when it might be at fault. We still, however, too frequently hear of practical knowledge, as if in a certain sense it was opposed to a scientific method of accounting for it, and as if experience without that advantage were more trustworthy than the like experience with it. Such may not certainly be the actual expressions, but the usual reasoning adopted, nevertheless, too frequently amounts to the same view. Let it not, for a moment, be inferred that we do not regard practical knowledge as of the highest importance, even in cases where those possessing it may not else possess the power of satisfactorily analysing it. Facts brought to light by practice are to general progress that which experiments are to experimental philosophy; they have to be properly explained by the best methods at command, after they have been satisfactorily proved to be facts—a matter of no slight importance, seeing that so many things, so termed, are not such. We only desire that all interested should have the power to discriminate between sound and unsound views, as far as existing knowledge may be available—taking all care not to neglect or depreciate the information afforded by those whose opportunities may not have sufficiently advanced their power to analyse and extend it. We should recollect how rapidly the science of our time has increased among the most instructed, and with it the power of its extension and application in directions not dreamt of by one of our forefathers. As some reason, right or wrong, is sure to be assigned for every practice, it is most important that those connected with it should possess the existing knowledge upon which it rests. It becomes a national duty to assist in collecting that knowledge for them, especially when widely scattered. For the purposes contemplated at this establishment, facts bearing upon the teaching proposed have to be sought far and wide among various other nations, as well as in our own. That there is an increasing feeling among those most interested that, successfully to apply a science, requires both a knowledge of the science and of the subject to which it is to be applied; and that wherever there is a want for promoting the combined information it should be supplied, our every-day experience shows. Those whose duties or inclinations take them among our industrial population can scarcely fail to observe how much the term *practical* is becoming appreciated in its true sense. Indeed, the difficulties which the instructed in that population have to contend with from the uninstructed could scarcely otherwise than lead to correct views on this head. Afford those whose minds are alive to every application of knowledge the power to acquire that which they are desirous of applying, so that they possess the notion of analysing their practice successfully for general purposes and the public good. The more real knowledge is diffused, the more will effective practice be increased. Science and practice are not antagonistic; they are mutual aids. The one advances with the other.

On Friday the 8th, Dr. Lyon Playfair, the Professor of Chemistry in the Institution, delivered a lecture 'On the National Importance of studying and promoting Abstract Science as a means of giving a healthy Progress to Industry.' From this lecture—which most ably advocates the adoption of an enlarged system of industrial education—we extract the more striking passages. The lecturer said:—

The raw material used by industry for the production of useful objects doubtless forms the basis of manufactures, but possesses a fluctuating value in relation to that of the object into which it is converted. In the successful prosecution of manufactures, apart from the influence of mere capital and labour, two elements are involved, each forming a factor which, in a competition of industry, may be made to assume very different values. The first element is the raw material; the second, the skill and knowledge used in adapting it to the purposes for which it is designed. Thus in America cotton is indigenous, and consequently cheap; and fuel, the other raw material employed in its conversion to a textile fabric, is not expensive. In England the same cotton is much dearer, but the fuel may be assumed to be equal in price. The competition between the two countries, in respect to calico, resolves itself into the necessity that England, to overcome the disadvantage of the greater cost of the raw material, must infuse a greater amount of skill and knowledge into the processes employed in its adaptation to useful purposes. England has succeeded in doing this, and, consequently, the mills of Manchester may render unproductive the mills of Lowell. But reverse the conditions of the two countries, and a similar result attests the truth of the same principle. Sheffield produces steel, which in large quantity is exported as a raw material to America. The history of that country has created a knowledge of the conditions required for the manufacture of edge tools. The forests were not cleared, or the prairie converted into arable land, without that observing nation understanding the qualities and the requirements of the axe, the adze, and the spade. The knowledge thus attained was applied to the manufacture of edge tools; and commerce returns to England its own steel, but under a new form, and endowed with an excellence, a temper, and a cheapness yet unattained by our artisans. Without this application of greater skill it would have been impossible for America to have competed with the country which furnished the raw material. A nation, if it combine ordinary intelligence with its local advantages of cheap raw material, may long preserve almost a monopoly in special manufactures, and will continue to do so, either until the competing nation has risen so high above her in intelligence as to make this more than an equivalent for the local advantage of the other, or until a greater equalization in the price of the raw material renders a small amount of superiority in the intellectual element of sufficient importance to secure successful competition. But should any great transition of the world take place, and should means arise by which local advantages were levelled, and the raw material confined to one country became readily attainable by all, the difference in its cost being inconsiderable, then the competition in industry must become a competition in intellect; and that nation which most quickly promotes the intellectual development of its artisans, must, by an inevitable law of nature, advance; while the country which neglects its industrial training must as inevitably recede. It requires no mental acumen to perceive that we are rapidly approaching to, if we have not yet arrived at, this period of wonderful transition when nations must speedily acquire the levels due to their different amounts of intellectual development. It is quite true that a superabundance of capital may for a time preserve a country from a quick depression, even should it lapse in its intellectual training; but the support thus given can only be temporary and illusory, for if, by the purchase of foreign talent, the necessary knowledge is infused into home manufactures, this can only have the effect of raising the intellectual element in the foreign country, and thus finally accelerate its success as a competing nation. There never was a time when it was so necessary as now that skill and science should be united for the promotion of the industrial arts.

At former periods of human history local advantages or accidental combinations were the foundations of a nation's prosperity. The time is not distant when it was thought that the possession of mineral fuel indicated a country as the natural manufactory of those necessaries of life which employ machinery in their production, while the existence of large tracts of land, warmed by a genial sun, stamped another nation as essentially agricultural, and employed its population in the labours of the field. Each country fell into a routine of manufacture, and Italy and France produced their silks and shawls with as little thought of competition as England its machinery and calicoes. Science in advancing has created resources unthought of before, and has removed those local barriers which had retarded the progress of industry. Countries are no longer confined in their aspirations by smallness of territory, for this, by the aid of science, enlarges its powers. The country which in its agricultural poverty can support only a scanty and miserable population, expands itself for the reception of increased numbers as the produce of its land augments; and thus knowledge, in the improvement of agriculture, wins by a bloodless victory vast additional territory to aid in the industrial resources of the nation, for a land with a two-fold increase in agricultural production has, for all practical purposes, unfolded itself to twice its size. Science, in its progress in improving and simplifying processes of manufacture, while it is opening at the same time a communication between the nations of the earth. The amazing facilities of transport afforded by the introduction of steam enable a ready interchange of their natural riches, and mere adventitious local advantages, apart from skill and science in their adaptation, become of much less moment than they formerly were. The proof of this is in the fact that the staple manufactures are now carried on in all parts of Europe, and that there is a constantly increasing and active competition of most of the great nations in all the markets of the world. If England still continue in advance it will not be that her coal and iron are plentiful, but because she unites science with practice, and because she enables her discoveries in philosophy to keep pace with her aptitude in applying them. But is it true that England does act thus wisely? and is it true that science does hold in this country its just position in public esteem, or that it is fostered sufficiently to make that progress which it is now doing in other lands? To all such questions a negative reply must be given, for beyond a theoretical recognition of the importance of science in its relations to practice, and the establishment of this museum and college—a very important measure I admit—the State and the public only look to the empirical result, and have not deemed it necessary to foster that knowledge which directly led to it. But England is the only European state which is thus blind to its own interests, and which has not yet thoroughly awakened to the importance of giving an intellectual training to those intrusted with its manufactures. This is proved by the large endowments given by foreign governments for the support of institutions connected with industrial science, and it finds expression in the writings of their thinking men.

Hour after hour might be employed in recording the triumphs of chemistry in its investigations into the play of the organic elements. Looking back no further than the last few years you see how it has thrown open the most hidden processes of animal and vegetable life—how it has taught us to increase and economise the food of man. It is even yet the practice of those who have not followed her discoveries into the wondrous affinities of the few simple organic elements, to depreciate the importance of following their infinite creations. If, however, there were no other result from doing so than the one great achievement of having explained the ingredients in food used to build up the muscular frame and those employed in the support of animal heat, the importance of that discovery would have repaid all the labour of the past century. Almost all the staple manufactures of this country are founded on chemical principles, a knowledge of which is absolutely indispensable for their economical application. In a few educational establishments, and in some of our Universities, the alphabet of chemical science is taught; but it requires an institution such as this, devoted to a special object, to teach how to use that alphabet in reading manufactures. The extension of scientific and technical education is a want of the age. The old and yet widely existing scholastic system of education, introduced by the revival of learning in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, is ill adapted to the necessities of the times. Erasmus would not now aid Cambridge in advancing the progress of England, nor would Vitelli make Oxford useful to the mass of its population. It would be of little use in the lagging progress of Italy, even if Chrysoloras was again to teach Greek in its Universities. Euripides and Thucydides cannot make power-looms and spinning jennies; for these Watts and Arkwrights are required. A Poggio may discover copies of Lucretius and Quintilian without thereby producing a result equal to that of the smallest discoveries of a Stephenson or a Wheatstone. When will our schools learn that dead literature cannot be the parent of living science or of active industry? "The great desideratum of the present age," says Liebig, "is practically manifested in the establishment of schools in which the natural sciences occupy the most prominent places in the course of instruction. From these schools a more vigorous generation will come forth, powerful in understanding, qualified to appreciate and to accomplish all that is truly great, and to bring forth fruits of universal usefulness. Through them the resources, the wealth, and the strength of empires will be incalculably increased." Institutions such as this are not substitutes for, but supplements to, the Universities. It is the industrial training which we profess, and everything else is made subsidiary to that object. Not that we do or should forget abstract science as such, because I believe the discoveries in abstract laws are of more real benefit to industry than their immediate applications. The technical man is perhaps of more use to himself and to his time and generation than he who discovers the abstract laws which the former applies to the purposes of industry; but it is the abstract philosopher who benefits all time and confer universal and eternal benefit on society.

After giving numerous examples of the advantages of scientific knowledge to the manufacturer, and of the failures which have continually resulted from the want of it,—Dr. Playfair thus concluded.—

For a long time practice, standing still in the pride of empiricism, and in the ungrateful forgetfulness of what science had done in its development, reared upon its portal the old and vulgar adage—" An ounce of practice is worth

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a too of theory." This wretched inscription acted like a Gorgon's head, and turned to stone the aspirations of science. Believe it not; for a grain of theory—if that be an expression for science—will, when planted, like the mustard-seed of Scripture, grow and wax into the greatest of trees. The pressure and difficulties of the age, and the rapid advancement of intellect in continental nations, have been the Perseus to cut off this Medusa's head from the industry of England, and to fix it on the shield of Minerva, who turns to stone such as still believe that science should be ignored by practice, but, reversing that shield, wisely conducts those who would go further under her guidance. It is now rare to find men who openly avow, although they actually entertain a belief in, a necessary antagonism between theory and practice. Theory is, in fact, the rule, and practice its example. Theory is but the attempt to furnish an intellectual explanation of that which is empirically ascertained to be true, and is always useful, even when wrong. Theories are the leaves of the tree of science, drawing nutriment to the parent stem while they lasts, and by their fall and decay affording the materials for the new leaves which are to succeed. I have now said enough to show you that it is indispensable in this country to have a scientific education in connexion with manufactures, if we wish to outstrip the intellectual competition which now, happily for the world, prevails in all departments of industry. As surely as darkness follows the setting of the sun, so surely will England recede as a manufacturing nation, unless her industrial population become much more conversant with science than they now are.

On Monday the 10th, Mr. Edward Forbes—who is the Professor of Natural History—delivered a most instructive lecture on the importance of the study of natural history in various branches of industrial Art. He particularly instanced the importance of palæontological knowledge in leading to a correct knowledge of the coal-measure strata: —and he mentioned two instances in which large sums of money had been expended in a vain search for coal, from an imperfect knowledge of the fossils found in the beds through which the work was carried. Prof. Forbes also drew attention to the advantages which would be derived from the study of natural history by those who should cultivate a knowledge of design. "There is," says Prof. Forbes, "a great blank yet unfilled in the treating of the numerous applications which may be made of natural history to the arts. Beautiful as are the exquisite examples of ceramic, vitreous and metallic manufactures collected in our Museum, we cannot but feel that the workmen, however free his natural or acquired taste may be, is unaware of the vast variety of beautiful shapes and designs that lie unused in the treasury of Nature. The aiding of the manufacturer in the perfecting of his works is one of the aims we profess."

On Tuesday the 11th, Mr. Robert Hunt—the Professor of Mechanical Science—gave his lecture, 'On the Importance of cultivating Habits of Observation.'—First, tracing the progress of humanity and the birth and progress of science from the very necessities of existence,—Mr. Hunt proceeded to show that where close and careful observation has been neglected, error and uncertainty have retarded the progress of truth; but where attention has been paid to minute phenomena as they presented themselves, the advantages to man has been great. Numerous examples were given from physical science, and many illustrations from applied mechanics.

The courses under Profs. Playfair, Forbes, and Hunt have now fairly commenced;—those by Profs. Ramsay, Smyth, and Percy will begin on the 6th of January 1852.—As an important experiment, we feel great interest in the progress of this Government School of Mines and of Science applied to the Arts,—and we shall from time to time return to a consideration of its doings.

We understand that a number of tickets to all the courses have been placed at the disposal of Mr. Redgrave, of the School of Design, to enable those students who might desire to do so to receive all the benefits which scientific instruction can here afford. Considerable experience is, we are informed, manifested amongst the pupils to avail themselves of this privilege.

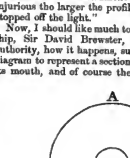
IMPROVEMENTS IN LARGE REFLECTING TELESCOPES.

I joined the British Association this year at Ipswich a day too late to hear Lord Rosse's interesting remarks on various suggestions submitted to him for the improvement of large reflecting telescopes; and thus I was not fully aware of the nature of these remarks until the other day, when, happening to be in Edinburgh, a friend showed me the account given of them in the *Athenæum* of July 12.

The mode there spoken of for dispensing with the second reflection,—by taking advantage of the form of the human body, and placing the observer all along in the middle of the tube with his feet stretched out towards the speculum and his head a little raised so as to enable him to view the object through the magnifier fixed in the axis of the large tube, was a suggestion of mine first published in the *Athenæum* [No. 890. p. 1048.]

This proposed improvement I afterwards submitted both to his Lordship and to Sir David Brewster. The principal objection that the latter had to it was, that the heat of the observer's body would cause a disturbance of the rays passing along it. This objection I proposed to remove, by inclosing the observer in a non-conducting case suspended in the middle of the tube. Communicating with this case there were to be two gutta percha pipes passing up to it through a large circular hole in the centre of the speculum: one pipe was for conveying fresh and warm air from the chamber of the observatory,—the other for discharging the same after use into the open air behind the speculum. There was also to be a mechanical apparatus whereby the inclosed observer could himself move and adjust both the large tube and his inclosing case at will; so that, instead of the exposure to the inclemency of the weather hitherto so detrimental and often fatal to the astronomer, he might continue his observations during the longest watches and coldest nights as comfy as lounging reclining on his own bed. All this in the *Athenæum* account before me seems to be admitted as practicable and attainable; but his Lordship states a new objection:—"The diffraction caused by the head of the observer, or by the box or case in which it was proposed to encase it or himself. The effect of this diffraction on the performance of the instrument would become more injurious the larger the profile of the object which stopped off the light."

Now, I should like much to know from his Lordship, Sir David Brewster, or other competent authority, how it happens, supposing the annexed diagram to represent a section of the telescope near its mouth, and of course the large circle A to be



the tube and the small B the end of the case in which the observer is inclosed,—how it happens, I say, that this diffraction on the "larger profile" A has never hitherto been found to injure the instrument while it is anticipated to be so fatal on the smaller B? Granting there be no mistake here, which there seems to be,—whenever satisfied there is no mistake I engage to show how this objection also may be easily obviated.

There is another point in the report before me on which I would make a few remarks,—but I delay till the present be discussed.

I am, &c.

Comrie, Perthshire, Oct. 6. P. M'FARLANE.

FINE ARTS

The Geometrical Mosaics of the Middle Ages. By M. Digby Wyatt. Published for the Proprietor.

WE are glad to see that this splendid work of Mr. Wyatt's has reached a second edition. We did not on its first appearance give it that notice which its merits demand, because our readers had then just made acquaintance with its author's theories and views in our reports of his papers on the subject as they were read before the various Art Societies. But on the appearance of a second edition it is right that we should now say a few words on the collection of diagrams as they appear here represented.

The praise of indefatigable research and of critical sagacity must be awarded to Mr. Wyatt for having been almost the first to give to an English public a tolerably full and rational account of an art which, falling into disuse as the art of painting advanced, has in these days of reproductive tendency come once more into request. Recent processes shown in the Crystal Exhibition have established the possibility of the revival of this suspended form of decoration. Improved chemical knowledge and increased mechanical resources warrant the expectation of superior technical application:—the question of originality of design and of direction of taste can be determined only by time.

The twenty-one pages of illustration which accompany Mr. Wyatt's historical notice—selected from leading examples of Italian art—are obviously given with a view of illustrating some of the most characteristic motives of a style which, from its nearly intrusive into that country, was styled as the *opus Grecanicum* of the time—*glass* tesselated work. Examples are also given of the *opus Alexandrinum*, or *marble* tesselated work.

In England but little is known of either. Of glass tesselation there are the specimens in Eelwood the Confessor's Chapel in Westminster Abbey, His shrine and the tomb of Henry the Third are too well known to need much other remark here than, that the frequent attribution of them to Pietro Cavallini is, as Mr. Wyatt justly remarks, a blunder. Some other Italian it was who set up these works after the most approved fashion of the day. These specimens are eloquent of a refined and a beautiful taste;—the origin of which is involved in much obscurity. Mr. Wyatt has given an ingenious classification of styles and tastes, and has traced from Pliny and other sources the earliest known forms of the employment of this art. Its origin has also been variously ascribed to Persian, Indian, and other oriental nations. Mr. Wyatt refers to the 1st chapter and the 6th verse of the Book of Esther for an illustration in the "pavement of red, and blue, and white, and black marble" there spoken of. Daily discoveries, at home as well as abroad, have exhibited its extensive applications among the Romans. The Vase and Pigeons now an ornament of the Capitol is believed to be a work by Sosus of Pergamos,—and has in its time provoked much learned disquisition. For most we forget the mosaics of Pompeii, attributed to Dioscorides of Samos,—or the discovery in the same city, twenty years since, of the Great Battle. These are examples of different styles. Numerous are the examples of similar ornamentation in the same Roman city. The majority were in coloured marbles and stones:—and in all which we have seen there is a breadth of feeling and style perfectly in unison with the other arts than in use. Such does not appear to be the case with the times of which Mr. Wyatt treats. While in ornamentation the geometric mosaics display the most ingenious motives, the higher and more artistic forms of expression introduced by such artists as Mino di Turrita and Andrea Tafi command our respect more from their having been the precursors or the re-introducers of Art into the Tuscan and Roman states than from any realization of ideal character or technical power.

It is interesting to remember how such works arrested the attention of Cimabue:—how he and his disciples progressed from the hint which he derived when loitering in the baptistery. The rudeness which he eschewed in these performances —and which it has been the habit to assume as the accident of a barbarous age—has been differently accounted for. In the first impulse of Christian fervour, it is said—diametrically adverse as it was, to that deification of nature objects which had prevailed among the Pagans—the imitation of moral and sacred things was sought by images *opposed* to the *beau ideal* of nature rather than by graceful and agreeable forms. The tendency was, to exhibit the divine manifestation under humble

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and almost servile forms. Christ was believed to have concealed his magnificence under an exterior materially ugly. Clement, of Alexandria, exhorting Christians not to attach too much value to external beauty, in support of his exhortation, cites this fact:—and he and Tertullian were both opposed to the plastic representation of religious matters,—believing that the daily habit of seeing the representation of divinity tends to profane it, and to worship the spirit in the substance is to lower it to the sense. This presumed repugnance to the imitative tendencies of art, it is further asserted, was abandoned as the power of Paganism declined.

Although this is a part of the question with which Mr. Wyatt has not concerned himself, it is yet much mixed up with the styles and times of which he treats.—The early examples of ornamentation which he gives are those relying more on ingenious combinations of geometric forms than on the excursive flights of fancy which were coincident with the later and more accomplished days of Scripture illustration:—and it is not supposing too much to believe that the same reasons governed both pictured story and decorative arabesque. The palmy days of Papal rule and pedantic lore exhibited in the chambers of the Vatican at once the history of the Church designed by Raffaelle, and the arabesquely ornamented pilaster carried out in the same place by his scholar Giovanni da Udine. It is thus that the condition of external circumstance has always influenced the direction of Fine Art. —Once more we thank Mr. Wyatt for this work. It puts us in possession of some of the earliest records of a phase of Art decoration that cannot but be of invaluable assistance to those who desire to carry on a species of art which may be applied with great advantage to our public buildings and to our dwellings.

Fine-Art Gossip.—The Exhibition, on Wednesday last, of copies made at the British Institution from pictures lent by the proprietors brings with it annually reflections that are far from consoling. They are composed of regrets at observing so many ingenious hands who have mistaken their vocation, and, as Fuseli observed, deprived many an honest handicraft of an industrious artisan,—and pity for the *ill-directed* efforts of individual aspirants. The want of a governing or directing person is felt, as we have often said, in all this:—one who might so control the elements within his reach as to give proper pursuit to the votaries who frequent this temple for Art-worship. In vain are the choicest examples of the highest practice placed before the students if there be no presiding and restraining conductor. In the eager desire to obtain knowledge, too many departments of Art are sought after at once; and in the majority of instances not only styles and practices at entire variance with each other are attempted, but many are followed that are unworthy of the rational exercise of mental power. These latter examples, it will be said, should not have been left for study:—that only proves anew the necessity for some artistic government, without which, copying is, as Reynolds pithily said, but "delusive industry." The evil is not confined to the perplexing of the student mind:—it helps to fill the pawnbroker's and the dealer's shops with endless *versions*—not repetitions—of renowned performances,—often, it is to be feared, to the ultimate loss of the credulous and uninformed speculator in bargains and *veritable* originals. On a smaller scale, we have here the same mischief which meets us in most of the public galleries of Europe,—chiefly in that of the Louvre.

A fine marble bust of Dr. Lever, one of the Physicians of Guy's Hospital—from the hand of Mr. Baily, the Royal Academician, has just been presented to that eminent practitioner by a body of ladies, his patients.

We are happy to find that the small dioramic picture of the City and Bay of Naples of which we spoke some weeks since on seeing it at a private view, has found—as we anticipated it would—a home. It has been opened as an Exhibition, under the name of Signor Agardo, and with the title of the Noctorama, at the Portland Hall in Great Portland Street, Oxford Street. Our readers will remember that this very beautiful picture takes the spectator on a ramble through the streets of Naples,—includes amongst its objects of interest the Castel Nuovo, the Theatre San Carlo, the Santa Lucia, the Bay and opposite coast, with the sites of Portici, Resina, Herculano, and Pompeii, Vesuvius, Castelamare, the open Mediterranean, and Villa Reale,—and terminates with some striking dioramic effects of the Eruption of Vesuvius. A picture of 'The Illumination of St. Peter's at Rome' is, we believe, to be added:—and the Noctorama should take its place among the attractive picture Exhibitions which enter so largely into the popular entertainments of the present day.

The prize of one hundred guineas offered by the managers of the Manchester Institution of Fine Art has, we hear, been awarded to Mr. E. M. Ward for his picture of 'Marie Antoinette and Louis the Sixteenth,' exhibited last season at the Royal Academy,—and now exhibiting at Manchester. The Heywood gold medal and money prize accompanying it has, we learn, been assigned to the same artist for the same picture.

The Paris papers state that the Free Society of Fine Arts in that capital are subscribing for a monument to the late M. Daguerre—who was a member of their body,—to be erected at Petit-Brie, where the distinguished artist lies buried.

From Munich it is stated that the colossal equestrian statue of Gustavus Adolphus destined for the town of Gottenburg—modelled by the Swedish sculptor, Fuglbjerg, at Rome—has just been cast in the Royal Foundry of the former capital,—and was to be immediately forwarded to its place of destination. It represents the great king in the costume which he wore during the Thirty Years' War, and holding in his right hand the bâton of command.—The Equestrian Statue of King Charles John (Bernadotte)—modelled by the same artist, for the city of Stockholm, and at the cost of its citizens—was just about to be cast.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.—FIRST CONCERT.—On MONDAY EVENING, November 17, will be performed:—Overtures—'Don Carlos' (MS.) Macfarren; 'Preciosa,' Weber; Pianoforte Concerto, Mozart; Symphony, No. 4, Mendelssohn; Septett, Lucas. Vocalists—Mrs. Endersohn, Messrs. Wallworth and Lockey. Solo Instrumental—Miss Kate Loder, Messrs. Pratten, Nicholson, Lazarus, Maycock, C. Harper, Baumann, and Larkin.—Tickets to be had only at Messrs. Addison's, 210, Regent Street. Subscription to the Series, 2l. 2s.; Stalls, 3l. 3s. Single Tickets, 10s. 6d. and 12s.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.

M. JULLIEN'S ANNUAL SERIES OF CONCERTS.

THE LAST WEEK BUT TWO.

First Appearance of Messieurs DELOFFRE and PILET.
First Time of 'THE BLOOMER QUADRILLE.'
First Appearance of Mons. FRELON.
First Night of 'DON GIOVANNI.'
Seventh Appearance of Signor Bottesini.

M. Jullien has the gratification to state that he has become the purchaser of several of the Instruments to which were awarded the Council Medal, at the Great Exhibition, among which are:—The Violins manufactured by M. Vuillaume, of Paris—several of M. Sax's Wind Instruments—and also the Grand Pianoforte of the Messrs. Erard; this latter Instrument will be Exhibited First Evening, and will be performed upon by the celebrated Pianiste, Mons. BILLET.

Programme for Monday Evening, Nov. 17th, 1851.

Part I.

Overture—'Der Freischutz'	Weber.
Quadrille—(Humorous) 'The Bloomer Quadrille'	Jullien.
Symphony—'The Power of Sound'	Spohr.
Song—Miss DOLBY, 'Ah quel Giorno'	Rossini.
Valse—'La Prima Donna,' composed for the Court Balls	Jullien.
Solo, Contra-basso—Sig. BOTTESINI, 'Le Carnival de Venise,' composed by Sig. Paganini for the Violin, but performed by Sig. Bottesini on the Contra-basso	Paganini.
Quadrille—'Great Exhibition'	Jullien.

Part II.

Opera—Grand Selection and Fantasia, from 'Don Giovanni' with Solos	Mozart.
Solo—Mons. FRELON, on Mons. Alexandre's new Instrument 'The Melodium'	Donizetti.
Polka—'Polka des Poignards'	Auber.
Song—Miss DOLBY, 'The Flowers are sleeping'	Baker.
Duo, Violin and Violoncello, without Accompaniment—Mons. DELOFFRE and Mons. PILET, (First Time)	Deloffre.
Valse—'Miranda'	Kœnig.
Galop—'The Review'	Jullien.

Commence at Eight. Promenade, Boxes, and Galleries, 1s. Dress Circle 2s. 6d.

GRAND BAL MASQUÉ.

M. JULLIEN'S Annual Grand Bal Masqué will take place on Friday, December 19th.

MISS DOLBY has the honour to announce that the FIRST of her ANNUAL SERIES of THREE SOIRÉES MUSICALES will take place at her residence, 2, Hinde-street, Manchester-square, on TUESDAY, the 18th instant, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Miss DOLBY will be assisted by eminent Vocal and Instrumental Artistes. Subscription for the Series, One Guinea.—Tickets for a Single Soirée, Half-a-guinea each, to be had of Miss Dolby only.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Songs of France:—Le Premier Jour de Mai.—Le Lever.—Aubade.—Chant d'Automne.—O ma belle Rebelle.—Venise. The Words by celebrated French Poets, and imitated in English by H. F. Chorley; composed by Charles Gounod.—As the first compositions by M. Gounod which have been published, these six Songs will be looked for with some curiosity by those who are acquainted with our opinion of his present value, and his promise for the future, as a composer. Few, we believe, who are competent to judge, or catholic in judging, will find our high commendations contradicted by a series which after its kind is one of the most individual ever given to the world of singers or songstresses.—The catholicity adverted to will be required merely because of the nationality of these melodies. They are essentially as French as Clément Marot's *Lais* or Béranger's *Chansons*,—yet entirely clear of the frivolity of those romances so prettily written by the Panserons, Pugets, and scores beside, for the Sabatiers and other ladies to sing so piquantly. They must be examined with intimate and express reference to their French text; since the best conceivable English paraphrase (which no one can esteem the versions and imitations before us to be) must be lame in metre, forced in accent, and clumsy where the original is *spirituel*, when a reproduction of the rhymes and rhythms of Baif, Passerat, Hugo and De Musset is in question. Moore himself would have found the task one of no ordinary difficulty. Let this be illustrated by a single example—that of the word "*Contentons*," in 'Le Premier Jour de Mai,' which, as marking a *refrain* and a new sentence, claims to be rendered by a trisyllabic verb equivalent in meaning, accent, and euphony. Such an one can hardly be found.—Thus much to place the music of M. Gounod in the right point of view, and to do justice to his exquisite and close propriety in the adaptation of sound to sense.

In the next, or may we not say, first requisite for a song—which is, a tuneable melody—these specimens are as rich as they are characteristic. The ideas are always vocal, always natural; as well sustained as they are variously and happily originated.—But let us here make a remark, the truth of which we have been taught by some experience. There are few things in art concerning which opinion is so largely divided as this same matter of melody in music.

Ask where's the North: at York 'tis on the Tweed, &c.

The first instinct with every one who has reached a certain point of connoisseurship is, to question its existence unless it take forms approved by his own established predilections. Thus, for many a long year the lovers of Mozart abused Rossini as a vulgar and frivolous writer of dance tunes. We have heard persons who admire the themes of Spohr as fresh, blame those of Mendelssohn for being dry. Others again, who study French criticism, will be puzzled when they read of melodies by M. Halévy as "distinguished," which, when heard, will appear to them to be merely phrases in a regular number of bars, but in which every expected note has been replaced by something unlooked for. The definitions put forth, and the examples referred to by M. Berlioz, would bewilder a college; so strangely will that acute critic reconcile himself to platitudes in one case, yet anathematize novelties in another. We cite these examples to explain our statement, that while M. Gounod seems to us as a melodist natural, sweet, expressive, and original beyond most of his contemporaries, it is by no means certain that those who call nothing a melody unless it reminds them of 'Vedrai carino,' or 'Di tanti' will admit our praise at once. Regarding the future we have no doubts.

These six Songs are in all styles. The first is as charmingly gay, in an old-world fashion, as if it were a verse of Chaucer,—fresh, tuneable, and rising towards the close into an animation which is de-

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licious because of its complete nature. With this may be mentioned 'O ma belle rebelle;' because, there, too, to suit the tone of the ancient French lyric, M. Gounod has found such a melody as Baif might himself have written — amorously plaintive, but never sickly. — 'Le Lever' is as bright and *gaillard* a morning-piece as the most gallant 'Going to the Chase' that Wouvermanns ever painted. Here, again, the melody rises excellently in interest as the close is reached. In 'Aubade,' we have the serenader with voice and lute in antiphony—the gentle and delicate modulations in the accompaniment rescuing it from monotony with the *finesse* of a master. — The 'Chant d'Automne' is more devotional in its tenderness — a sacred air of the first class. The last song of this excellent series—'Venise' —is, however, our favourite, and of itself sufficient to establish its composer's reputation for beauty, originality, and felicity of colour. Having been obviously *conceived* in score,—the accompaniment, without the least difficulty or over-prominence, is so full as to be beyond the easy reach of two hands, and is, therefore, given to two performers. Many and lovely as the musical illustrations of Venice have been,—those of Rossini, Donizetti, Perruchini, and Mendelssohn (among his '*Lieder*') not forgotten,—we know of none so fascinating and so faithful in its picturesque colour as this. With the utmost strictness of musical form is combined a variety of modulation singular as comprised in so short a space without crudity of effect;—though singular, however, not wholly unique. Herr Czerny, in his treatise on Composition, has already called the attention of students to Schubert's 'Hark, the lark' as a notable example of such excellencies; but M. Gounod's 'Venise' is a yet more remarkable one,—its turnings and windings, many as they are, being so wholly in the course of nature as to give to the composition the air of a recitation.

One word more: these 'Songs of France' must be sung, not slighted,—and not only sung, but *said* with taste and intelligence. They are very winning to the singer,—since M. Gounod (of whose own style and expression in singing those who have heard him speak in the highest praise) writes most comfortably for the voice, never failing to afford it every fair opportunity for distinction. To sum up:—without the usual tinsel and pretension of a French *Album*, here is a collection of "Songs of France" of the very first quality, which should—and we think will—find its way to the permanent favour of all who love what is new and what is true in music.

OLYMPIC.—Mr. H. Farren has determined, it would seem, to take advantage of Miss Laura Keene's engagement to try his fate with the London public in a higher class of characters than he has hitherto attempted. On Monday he undertook *Shylock*:—the lady performing *Portia*. Both parts, we may say, were rather experiments than finished performances,—but both evinced earnestness and aptitude. Mr. Farren is capable of seizing the outline of a great part;—but he has not yet acquired the power of adding the requisite colour, or supplying the inner spirit and those nice details which constitute the histrionic language by which the perfect actor realizes it to the least instructed of his audience.—We look on Mr. H. Farren as now serving his apprenticeship to a new order of art; and estimate his attempts as containing much general promise, but not justifying at present any particular eulogy.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Miss Fitzpatrick has returned to this theatre; and on Friday week she appeared as neighbour *Constance*, in 'The Love Chase.' Her reception was cordial, and her performance characterized by its usual care and elegance,—with, we think, increase of force. She has since appeared in *Lady Rackett*, in 'Three Weeks after Marriage;' and acted the part with remarkable spirit and effect. A very successful career, we fancy, lies before this lady.

PUNCH'S PLAYHOUSE.—A slight affair entitled 'The Fifth of November' has been produced at this theatre. It is, as confessed, the mere "manufacture" of a Guy Fawkes' incident. A lover, disguising himself as the traditional effigy, scarcely escapes being burned on the grounds of an old gentleman who venerates ancient customs. By the *ruse*, however, he obtains the father's consent to the marriage of his daughter.—Such plots present too little of novelty to deserve more extended notice.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—What a scene was that at Drury Lane on the evening of Lord Mayor's day when the month of M. Jullien's Promenade Concerts commenced! The pit seemed paved with hats,—under which no faces could be seen, so tightly were their wearers jammed together. From the heaving of this black sea, and from the hoarse and busy murmurs thereof, the existence of much enthusiasm—and from time to time of a little pugilism also—might be divined by those who looked down upon its waves. The sight of that enormous and animated audience must have satisfied the most eager of Anglo-phobists—be he as perversely full of verjuice as Mr. Ware himself—that the Londoner has no objection to be entertained even in November; while it must have brought home to the Drury Lane treasury the precious conviction that M. Jullien has not lost his hold on the promenaders. Every other part of the large theatre was "to o'erflowing full."—No extraordinary novelty in musical confection has been yet presented. The monster hit of M. Jullien's month—if monster hit there is to be—is solemnly hidden behind the veil of mystery. On Monday we heard the Overture to Beethoven's 'Leonora' and the *Andante* to Mendelssohn's Third Symphony fairly played by a very good orchestra. Signor Bottesini performed one of his amazing *solos*, which called forth roars, screams, and other plaudits of ecstacy from beneath the restless expanse of hats,—Miss Dolby sang,—a *trio* for Herr König, Signor Cioffi, and M. Prospère was to come,—and, to conclude, a galop founded on Herr Kiss's statue of the 'Amazon and the Tiger,' by Karl Buller. Are we to have the entire Official Catalogue done into music? A 'Bloomer Polka,' we perceive, may be expected, —and an Indian Quadrille:—possibly, too, a Kossuth Mazurka. In short, neither Wisdom as it passes nor Folly as it flies is thought too high or too low, too heavy or too light, to be set as dances by M. Jullien. Strong, however, as is the spice of quackery in his entertainments, his orchestra is too well composed, his *solo* players are too eminent, and his recurrence to classical music is too frequent, for any one who considers how mixed a thing a vast shilling audience is not to commend him as one who caters liberally—and in some measure intelligently—for a public in quest of amusement rather than of art.—On Wednesday evening, Signor Sivori performed his 'Carnaval de Cuba.'

From the Manchester papers we learn that the death of Dr. Mainzer took place on Monday last. We have nothing new to say—as little to unsay—concerning Dr. Mainzer's position in the world of popular music and its influences. As a man, he was amiable, intelligent, and engaging,—with those touches of the picturesque in his composition and of warmth in his temperament which persuade many whom it would be no easy matter to convince,—and which are essential to the immediate success of a popular orator. Dr. Mainzer's published compositions are few and unimportant.

Among the many engagements by Mr. Bunn for his Drury Lane opera company talked of, is that of Signor Marchesi; who is understood to have been preparing himself carefully with the express object of singing in English.

The *début* of Madame Tedesco at the *Grand Opéra*, in M. Halévy's 'Reine de Chypre,' is said by the *Gazette Musicale* to have been decisive as to her excellence. Her voice is described to be an excellent *mezzo-soprano*, two octaves and a half in compass; of even quality throughout, with impressive lower tones, and of considerable power. Her execution is also praised as sufficient, her person is admired as pleasing, her acting is admitted to be satisfactory. Such a lady as this must be a valuable acquisition at the *Grand Opéra*, where, ever since the days of Madame Stoltz, a low voice has been in request. A great dramatic soprano (that most precious of all rarities) is still "to seek," unless Mdlle. Wagner or Mdlle. di Gruа fill the blank, or unless Mdlle. Cruvelli take herself to task and gain the full command over her magnificent natural gifts.

We have mentioned the third opera-house which has recently been opened in Paris, for about the thirtieth time, to meet the desires of a public weary of monopoly, and to satisfy "men of parts" in distress for a hearing. The proceedings there have been characterized by that oddity which appears to be constant to establishments having like objects and pretensions. In distress for something presentable, the management has already been driven to offer such novelties as versions of Rossini's 'Barbière' and Boieldieu's 'Ma Tante Aurore.' This, however, is not unique. More than one theatre opened for the reception of the unacted drama has fallen back within the first month upon 'The Merchant of Venice' and 'The Hunchback.' What is to be gathered from "a configuration" which appears to be organic, not accidental? Some such facts as these:—that not only is real novelty hard to find, but that the public does not always manifest that passion for novelty which is theoretically assumed to exist by those who maintain that "it is those stupid managers who keep the chain on the door."—M. Félicien David's coming opera, however, may perhaps deliver the new theatre from a state which cannot be described as prosperous even by the most plausible and self-interested of its partisans.

At the recent inauguration of the statue of William the Conqueror at Falaise, the music sung had been composed for the occasion by M. Auber.

A new tenor, Signor Pozzolini, has appeared at St. Petersburgh, in the part of *Nemorino* to Madame Persiani's *Adina*, in 'L'Elisir,' with good success. An artist competent to take this line of character was wanted; since the tenors who have succeeded to Rubini's heritage—waxing ambitious, we presume, on the strength of their triumphs in grand opera—are now too apt to decline many of the parts which Rubini was content to sing, and in which he was able to produce an effect on the public.

Madame Sontag's appearance at the Frankfort Theatre is said to have drawn a crowd nearly as numerous and animated as those attracted by Mdlle. Sontag in the days—now nearly a quarter of a century ago—when the enthusiastic youth of Germany drank champagne out of the shoe which she left behind her.

Mr. Webster's new engagements for his coming campaign include the names of Mrs. Sterling and Mr. and Miss Vandenhoff. The latter two artists are announced as about to appear in a new play.

MISCELLANEA

The Cloister Court, New Houses of Parliament, offers the most elaborate elevation to be found throughout the building. The other inner courts, it will be remembered, are all very plain and bald. This is for the most part a restoration by Mr. Barry of the old work, which had been miserably altered, patched, and disfigured by previous architects. * * The masonry of the other parts of the Parliament Houses is proceeding gradually; the clock-tower grows and grows, and promises to have a somewhat attenuated effect. A few nights ago, when we passed over the crippled Westminster-bridge, there was a clear sky and a bright moon; the width of the Thames was marked by the lamps on the bridges and on the shores, reflected in long still streaks of light on the water; and the immense pile, which is now beginning to take its real outline, produced a grand effect. —*Builder*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Peregrinus—A Constant Reader—C. R. L.—N. T.—W. S.—J. P. C.—One of the Music-loving Public—received.

G. G.—This correspondent's communication is not suited to our columns.

AN ARTIST.—The particulars sought may, we believe, be learnt at the office of the Austrian Commissioner, in Clarges Street, Piccadilly.

'WEBER'S THEORY OF MUSICAL COMPOSITION.'—The notice of this book appeared in the *Athenæum* of the 16th of August.

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25	5000	7	775 16 6	347 13 4	44 16 6
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WHISKERS, &c.?—Miss ELLEN GRAHAM, 14, Hand-court, Holborn, London, will send, post-free, on receipt of twenty-four postage-stamps, her celebrated NIOUKRENE (elegantly scented, and sufficient for three months' use), for Reproducing the Hair in Baldness, from whatever cause; preventing the hair falling off, strengthening weak hair, and checking greyness, &c. It is also guaranteed to produce whiskers, moustaches, &c. in three or four weeks, with the utmost certainty.—"My hair has become thicker and darker by using your Nioukrene."—*Mr. Merry, Eton.* "My hair now curls beautifully, and looks very glossy."—*Miss Mann.* "I have now a full pair of whiskers. Send me another pot."—*Major Hutton.*

INDIGESTION, CONSTIPATION, &c.—DU

BARRY'S HEALTH-RESTORING FOOD for INVALIDS and INFANTS.

THE REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD,

the only natural, pleasant, and effectual remedy (without medicine, purging, inconvenience, or expense, as it saves 50 times its cost in other remedies) for nervous, stomachic, intestinal, liver and bilious complaints, however deeply rooted, dyspepsia (indigestion), habitual constipation, diarrhœa, acidity, heartburn, flatulency, oppression, distension, palpitation, eruption of the skin, rheumatism, gout, dropsy, sickness at the stomach during pregnancy, at sea, and under all other circumstances, debility in the aged as well as infants, fits, spasms, cramps, paralysis, &c.

A few out of 50,000 cures:—

Cure, No. 71, of dyspepsia; from the Right Hon. the Lord Stuart de Decies:—"I have derived considerable benefit from your Revalenta Arabica Food, and consider it due to yourselves and the public to authorize the publication of these lines.—Stuart de Decies."

Cure, No. 49,832:—"Fifty years' indescribable agony from dyspepsia, nervousness, asthma, cough, constipation, flatulency, spasms, sickness at the stomach, and vomitings have been removed by Du Barry's excellent food.—Maria Jolly Wortham, Ling, near Diss, Norfolk."

Cure, No. 180:—"Twenty-five years' nervousness, constipation, indigestion, and debility, from which I had suffered great misery, and which no medicine could remove or relieve, have been effectually cured by Du Barry's Food in a very short time.—W. R. Reeves, Pool Anthony, Tiverton."

Cure, No. 4,208:—"Eight years' dyspepsia, nervousness, debility, with cramps, spasms, and nausea, for which my servant had consulted the advice of many, have been effectually removed by Du Barry's delicious food in a very short time. I shall be happy to answer any inquiries.—Rev. John W. Flavell, Riddlington Rectory, Norfolk."

Cure, No. 1,609:—"Three years' excessive nervousness, with pains in my neck and left arm, and general debility, which rendered my life very miserable, have been radically removed by Du Barry's food.—Alex. Stuart, Archdeacon of Ross, Skibbereen."

Similar testimonials from William Hunt, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, King's College, Cambridge, who, after suffering 60 years from partial paralysis, has regained the use of his limbs in a very short time upon this excellent food; Major-General Thomas King, Exmouth; the Rev. Charles Kerr, of Winslow, Bucks, a cure of functional disorders; Mr. Thomas Woodhouse, Bromley, recording the cure of a lady from constipation and sickness during pregnancy; Miss Elizabeth Jacobs, of Nazing Vicarage, Waltham-cross, Herts, a cure of extreme nervousness, indigestion, and gatherings; Miss Elizabeth Yeoman, Gateacre, near Liverpool, a cure of 10 years' dyspepsia and nervous irritability; Drs. Ure and Harvey; James Shorland, Esq., No. 3, Sydney-terrace, Reading, Berks, late Surgeon in the 96th Regiment, a cure of dropsy; James Porter, Esq., Athol-street, Perth, a cure of 13 years' cough, with general debility. The only remedy which has obtained 50,000 testimonials of cures of the above and many other complaints, many of which had resisted all other modes of treatment, and been abandoned as incurable.

As a measure of precaution against Ervalenta, Arabian Revalenta, Lentil Powder, Patent Flour of Lentil, Arabica Food, and other spurious and injurious imitations, Messrs. Du Barry & Co. have appointed such agents in London and the country, whose high respectability is an additional guarantee to the public of the genuineness of their health-restoring food. Thus in London are agents—Fortnum, Mason & Co., 182, Piccadilly, purveyors to Her Majesty the Queen; Hedges & Butler, 155, Regent-street; and through all respectable grocers, chemists, and medicine venders. In canisters, suitably packed for all climates, and with full instructions, 1 lb. 2s. 9d.; 2 lb. 4s. 6d.; 5 lb. 11s.; 12 lb. 22s.; super refined, 5 lb. 22s.; 10 lb. 33s. The 10 lb. and 12 lb. carriage free 200 miles on receipt of post-office order.—Du Barry & Co., 127, New Bond-street, London.

NO MEDICINE for the CURE of ASTHMA,

Consumption and Coughs, was ever attended with such speedy and unfailing success as Dr. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS. In every newspaper and periodical in the kingdom may be seen testimonials of their wonderful efficacy. To Singers and Public Speakers they are invaluable for clearing and strengthening the voice. They have a pleasant taste. Also,

DR. LOCOCK'S FEMALE WAFERS,

the best medicine for females. Have a pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s per box. All Pills under similar names are counterfeits.

REV. DR. WILLIS MOSELEY ON MIND OR NERVOUS COMPLAINTS.

Twenty-sixth Thousand.—A Pamphlet, Gratis.

NOVEL OBSERVATIONS on the CAUSES

and perfect and often speedy CURE of NERVOUS, MIND, and HEAD COMPLAINTS, &c., with numerous cases, testimonials, &c., will be franked to every address if one stamp is sent to the Author, 18, Bloomsbury-street, Bedford-square, London.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT and PILLS a

most excellent Remedy for ABSCESSES and OLD WOUNDS.—Thomas Edwards, a labourer in Portsmouth Dock-yard, received a severe hurt in his thigh, about four years ago, by a piece of timber falling on him. An abscess formed in consequence of the injury, which defied the most eminent surgeons to heal, and he was consequently pronounced incurable, and put on the superannuated list, with a pension; being now at liberty to try other remedies, he commenced using Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which have so effectually cured him, that he now enjoys good health, and is as well able to work as any man.—Sold by all venders of medicine, and at Professor Holloway's establishment, 244, Strand, London.

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THE NOUVEAU MONDE

MINING COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED IN FRANCE, FOR WORKING GOLD MINES IN THE MARIPOSA DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, UNDER LEASES FROM THE HONOURABLE COLONEL JOHN CHARLES FREMONT.

CAPITAL: £200,000, or Francs 5,000,000.

In Shares of £1 (or 25 fr.) each, to Bearer.

Comité de Surveillance in Paris.

President—PRINCE LOUIS LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

Vice-President—COUNT DE LANTIVY, Ex-Counsellor of State, (late French Consul General in Dublin.)

COUNT DE TALVANDE.

COUNT MILON DE VILLIERS, late Auditor of the Council of State.

VISCOUNT DE RUOLZ, Inspector of Railways in France.

BARON D'AURIER, Director of the National Agricultural Establishment of Rambouillet.

BARON DE BALSAC, late Chief of Division in the Ministry of Marine.

DUTILLEUL, Advocate in the Court of Appeal of Paris.

M. L. F. KRAUS, Banker.

DR. LONDE, Member of the National Academy of Medicine.

M. DE WISSOCQUE, late Prefect.

Gérant.

Mons. FABIEN PAGANELLI DI ZICAVO.

Commission of Supervision in London.

Sir WILLIAM DE BATHE, Bart., Portman-square.

JOHN ADDIS, Esq., Corn Exchange.

JOHN DUDIN BROWN, Esq., Corn Exchange.

G. H. CARR, Esq., 5, Laurence Pountney-place.

JOHN DISNEY, Esq., F.R.S., The Hyde, Essex.

G. P. IRVINE, Esq., 15, Pall Mall.

Captain JESSE, Maisonette, Ingatestone, Essex.

Engineers.

Messrs. JOHN TAYLOR & SONS, 6, Queen-street-place, Thames-street.

Bankers.

BANQUE DE FRANCE, Paris.

Messrs. HEYWOOD, KENNARDS & CO., London.

Messrs. MASTERMAN, PETERS & Co., London.

Solicitors.

Messrs. VALLANCE & VALLANCE, 20, Essex-street, Strand, London.

Brokers.

Messrs. HILL, FAWCETT & HILL, 29, Threadneedle-street.

Secretary (ad interim).

WILLIAM COOPER, Esq.

Chief Office.

11, Place de la Bourse, Paris.

London Agency.

2, Moorgate Street, City.

This Company was established in France in May, 1850, under the French law of "Commandite," by which the liability of each Shareholder is limited to the amount of his Shares, *and these Shares being paid up in full on allotment, and being to bearer* (au Porteur), *are not subject to any call or registration, and no Deed has to be signed.*

According to this law *(commandite)* the affairs of the Company are conducted by the *Gérant*, under the advice of the Comité de Surveillance in Paris; the Commission of Supervision in London will, however, have the supervision of the affairs of the Company in England and California, and an Agent charged with the full powers of the *Gérant* will represent the Company in London.

Shares to the amount of 40,000*l.* have been already issued, and the amount of Capital raised thereby has been applied to the purchase of Leases of the mineral property proposed to be worked by the Company, and in payment of the expenses incurred in the establishment of the Company in France and California.

The Capital to be raised from the remaining portion of the Shares will be applied to purchasing and sending out the necessary machinery, with an efficient staff of miners, artizans, and competent agents, skilled in the various processes adapted for the extraction of gold; to the working of the Mines, and to the payment of all charges and expenses incurred in England and France.

The proceeds of the Mines, after deduction of all expenses incurred, will be divided rateably among the Shareholders, and the Dividends will be payable in Paris and London.

The Leases and Contracts of the Mines are deposited with Messrs. Vallance & Vallance, the English Solicitors of the Company.

The Mariposa district in which this Company's property and mines are situated is shown in the Map accompanying the Prospectus. It was purchased in 1848 by the Honourable John Charles Fremont, and negotiations having been opened with him, through the Honourable David Hoffman, his sole representative in Europe, a grant was obtained, entitling the Nouveau Monde Company to four setts on the Mariposa vein, or at the option of the Company on any other part of his estates.

Subsequent to this, the Company purchased the lease of Baldwin's Mine, and two other leases which were granted by Col. Fremont. Baldwin's Mine is upon the great Mariposa quartz vein which has been found so largely productive. The report of Captain Jackson in reference to this Mine is annexed, from which it will be seen that, in respect to its position—the character and size of the vein which has been developed—the richness of the ores it produces and facilities for working—this sett is one which is eminently distinguished as having all the elements essential to the success of a mining enterprise. The specimens from "Baldwin's Mine" are extremely rich and may be seen at the Offices of the Company.

The grants to the Company are for Twenty-one years, with clauses for a renewal for a further term of Twenty-one years, under a Royalty of One-sixth of the gold produced; and the superficies of auriferous land secured by them, comprises an extent seven times greater than that possessed by any other Company.

These grants are exempt from Royalty during a period of eighteen months, from August, 1851, or until the profits from the Mines shall have re-imbursed the Company 17,000*l.* of their outlay in machinery and works.

Exclusive of these Mining setts there are also 500 acres of other land, principally forest, the timber upon which will secure to the Company an abundance of material for building, fuel for steam engines, and other Mining purposes.

In addition to these valuable grants, the Company has secured a Contract for a Lease from Colonel Fremont, of ten acres of land, upon which it is intended to erect works for the extraction of Gold. This Lease is for a term of forty-two years, upon conditions highly favourable to the Company; and it is intended to erect steam-engines of sufficient power, with machinery of the most approved construction, for crushing, grinding, and amalgamating quartz ores. These will be employed not only in the extraction of Gold from ores raised from the Mines leased by Colonel Fremont, but will also be employed in the reduction of the quartz ores raised in the surrounding districts.

This branch of business is a distinguishing feature in the intended operations of the Company, as, independent of all other considerations, a large revenue will be readily obtainable in California from such a source. This view is confirmed in a letter from Col. Fremont to Mr. Hoffman, dated 15th of May, 1851, in which he deplores the inefficiency of the machinery hitherto employed.

It is gratifying to the Commission of Supervision to state that they have secured the valuable services and co-operation of the Hon. Mr. Hoffman, as legal adviser on American law, and they have been desired by that gentleman to state, that in the present instance only, can he consent to act in connexion with any company of this nature.

It might naturally be anticipated that some estimate should be presented of the profits expected to arise from this enterprise, the Commission of Supervision are, however, determined to avoid putting forth any statement which cannot be borne out by the most undoubted evidence; they prefer to rely upon admitted facts as to the vast results which have already been obtained by parties possessing no facilities for advantageous working, and on the means and resources which are at the command of this Company, rather than upon any calculations based on the richness of selected specimens of quartz ores.

The advantages peculiar to this Company may thus be briefly enumerated.

1st. That the Shares are to bearer—no registration is necessary, and no deed has to be signed. 2nd. That the Company possesses a lease of a located mine, the produce of which is verified by the report of Captain Jackson. 3rd. That the Company possesses a tract of auriferous territory Seven times greater than that possessed by any other Company in Europe or America. 4th. That the terms of the leases of the mining setts are for 21 years, with clauses for renewal for 21 years. Lastly, that the Company has an additional lease, for 42 years, of lands for the erection of works for the extraction of Gold.

The following Letter has been received from the Hon. David Hoffman, addressed to Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte, the President of the Council of Supervision in Paris:—

To the Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte,
President of the Council of Supervision of the Nouveau Monde Company.

Monseigneur,—As the sole Representative and duly authorized Agent in Europe of the Hon. Col. John Charles Fremont, I have the honour to certify that the Company of which you are President possess Leases of seven tracts of auriferous territory in California, each Lease entitling your Company to a location at their own choice on the great Mariposa veins or elsewhere, as also in connexion with the said Tracts of a due quantity of agricultural and timber lands, subject to the like selection as your Company's Agents may decide.

These grants comprise an extent of Land greater than any which has yet been conceded by Col. Fremont to any Company, either in Europe or America; and by the terms of the Contract, the whole of the said Lands are exempted from any Royalty for a period of Eighteen months from this day, unless the profits of working the Mines shall at an earlier period have repaid the cost of purchasing and erecting the machinery and fixtures to the extent of 17,000l.

It is due also that I should assure you of the repeated expression by Col. Fremont of the high gratification he feels at the prospect of the various leases soon entering upon their locations, and the full belief which he entertains of the profitable and successful result. I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient Servant,
DAVID HOFFMAN,
Representative of Col. John Charles Fremont.

London, 13, Half-Moon-street, Piccadilly,
15th August, 1851.

Report from Captain Jackson as to "Baldwin's Mine."

To the Council of Supervision of Le Nouveau Monde Mining Company.

Gentlemen,—Agreeably with your request, I hand you herewith a Report made by me to D. A. Baldwin, Esq., on the 20th day of March, 1851, on the Baldwin Mine in Alta California, Mariposa County and River, and subsequently transferred to your Company.

Yours respectfully,
WM. A. JACKSON, Mining Engineer.

London, September 23, 1851.

To D. A. Baldwin, Esq.

City of New York, March 20th, 1851.

Dear Sir,—Having been actively engaged for nearly two years in Alta-California, in making explorations of the mining region, and publishing a map of the same; and having visited and personally inspected the Baldwin Mine, I therefore, at your request, make the following Report:—

By a lease from Col. John Charles Fremont to D. A. Baldwin, dated on the 20th day of May, 1850, a location was made and surveyed by Robert S. King, Esq., on the 20th day of November, 1850.

This mine is situated and lies on the great Mariposa Lode or vein, about three-quarters of a mile west from the city of Mariposa and near the river of the same name.

The piece or plot of ground embraced in this lease and location is 600 feet square, and was regularly entered upon and occupied by the said R. S. King, for D. A. Baldwin, and the operations of mining commenced by making cross-cuts upon the vein. The corner boundaries of the said location being plainly marked on four trees, with the initial letter, and one at the beginning—name in full.

From the original survey, the boundaries of this Mine begin at a large oak tree, west of the Missouri Gulch, and marked "D. A. Baldwin," and starting at the said tree, which is the S.S. West corner, and running thence 600 feet through Gem Gulch, E.S. East to an oak tree on the side of the hill, and marked 'B,'—thence running E.S. East, 600 feet, to a pine tree, marked 'B,' and thence running 600 feet S.S. West to an oak tree marked 'B,' and thence to the oak tree marked 'D. A. Baldwin,' the place of beginning.

This mine is a continuation of the Mariposa vein, and is traceable by outcrops at different points for three or four miles from the Ave Maria Creek, westwardly to the Agua Fria River. The vein presents at the various points at which it has been cut down upon, an uniform and regular formation of Quartz Ore containing gold, and on the Baldwin mine is from four to five feet in thickness, and dipping at an angle of about 45 degrees to the South. From the assays made by numerous chemists and assayers and others from the quartz ore which contained no gold visible to the eye, the result of the averages has been from 24 to 4 dwts. to the 100 lbs. of ore, or miners' bushel; and another series of assays of that in which gold was visible in many of the pieces, showed a result of from 10 to 15 dwts. per 100 lbs. of ore. Some specimens taken from the Mine by Mr. King, the intelligent mineralogist, who made the survey and location, would yield over 500 dollars to 700 dollars to the 100 lbs. of ore. Selected specimens would show a far greater yield. The situation of this mine is very eligible for operating to great advantage, and at moderate expense. It is immediately on the main waggon road from Stockton to Mariposa City. Stockton, being [illegible] miles distant, is the place of debarkation for all machinery and stores, from which places machinery in pieces of one or two tons weight can be carried by teams eight months in the year, and at moderate charges.

The trip is about four days by waggons from Stockton. From San Francisco to Stockton there are five steamers plying regularly, and numerous sailing vessels, at reduced rates of freight.

There is an abundance of fine Timber at hand for buildings and for putting up machinery, and fuel within a few hundred yards to run any number of engines. The health of this region is proverbially good, little or no sickness ever heard of. The Mariposa river affords water, within a short distance of the mine, for all purposes necessary for engines, and for washing and amalgamation of the ores.

I have the honour to remain, your obedient Servant,
WM. A. JACKSON,
Mining Engineer.

Applications for Shares may be made at the Company's Offices; or to the Brokers of the Company, on or before the 20th inst., after which no applications will be received.

Printed by James Holmes, of No. 4, New Ormond-street, in the county of Middlesex, printer, at his office No. 4, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, in the parish St. Andrew, in the said county; and published by John Francis, of No. 14, Wellington-street North, in the said county, Publisher, at No. 14 in Wellington-street aforesaid; and sold by all Booksellers and Newsvenders.—Agents for Scotland, Messrs. Bell & Bradfute, Edinburgh;—for Ireland, Mr. John Robertson, Dublin.—Saturday, November 15, 1851.

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THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1256. | LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1851. | PRICE FOURPENCE Stamped Edition, 5d.

For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. Baudry, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 28fr. or 1l. 2s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition. [JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT, CHANCERY LANE.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN.—DONELLAN LECTURE.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board will, on the 20th of December next, proceed to the ELECTION of the DONELLAN LECTURER for 1852.
Applications from Candidates should be sent before that day to the Registrar. Each Candidate is required to send in, with his application, a Statement of the subject which he proposes for his course of Sermons.
None but Fellows, Ex-fellows, Bachelors of Divinity, or Doctors of Divinity, are entitled to be Candidates.
RICHARD MACDONNELL, D.D.
Nov. 19, 1851. Registrar.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.
The Senate of the University of Sydney proposes to appoint THREE PROFESSORS in UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, SYDNEY:—A Classical Professor, who will be ex officio Principal of the College, and will receive a salary of 600l. a-year, and half the fees of his Class; a Professor of Mathematics, who will receive 500l. a-year, and half the fees of his Class; and a Professor of Experimental Philosophy and Chemistry, with 300l. a-year, and three-fourths of the fees of his Class,—and this Class may be attended by persons not Students of the College. The Salaries will commence from the day of landing in the Colony; and a sum of 500l. is appropriated towards defraying the expense of the passage of the three Professors from England.
The selection of the Professors is confided to Sir J. F. W. Herschel, Bart.; G. B. Airy, Esq., Astronomer Royal; Prof. Malden, of University College, London; and Henry Denison, Esq.
Candidates are to send their letters of application and testimonials addressed to Sir J. F. W. Herschel, Bart., 32, Harley-street, London, on or before December 6, 1851, writing on the outside of their packets "University College, Sydney."

ARUNDEL SOCIETY.—ELGIN MARBLES.—CASTS from Mr. Cheverton's reduction of the THESEUS (to which a Prize Medal was awarded at the Great Exhibition) may be obtained on application to Mr. Mackey, at Messrs. P. & D. Colnaghi's, 13 and 14, Pall-mall East. Price 21s. (or to Members of the Arundel Society, 12s. 6d.)
CASTS of the ILISSUS, recently reduced by Mr. Cheverton to the same scale, may be had on the same terms.
By order of the Council,
G. AUBREY BEZZI, Hon. Sec.
Office of the Arundel Society, Nov. 8, 1851.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—NOTICE TO MEMBERS.—The FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING will be held on SATURDAY NEXT, 29th Inst.—The Chair will be taken by the President at 8 o'clock in the Evening precisely. G. E. DENNES, Secretary.
20, Bedford-street, Strand,
Nov. 20, 1851.

MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.—Members are informed that the New Theatre of the Institution will be OPENED on the Evening of the 1st of December, when MISS GLYN will read the Tragedy of MACBETH. The further arrangements for the Season will include a second Reading from Shakspeare by Miss Glyn.—Dramatic Entertainments by Alfred Bunn, Esq. and John Miles, Esq. —Two Lectures by J. H. Pepper, Esq.—One by Robert Hunt, Esq. —Two by the Rev. H. Christmas—Two by Dr. Henry Nead—One by Mrs. Balfour—Musical Lectures (with Illustrations), by Ellis Roberts, Esq. and George Buckland, Esq.; and a Course of Lectures on the English Humorous Writers of the last Century, by the Author of 'Vanity Fair.'
There will also be a Series of Three Subscription Concerts for Members and their Friends.
The Syllabus, with full particulars, can now be obtained on application to the Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF THE INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS, NEW YORK, 1852.
We, the undersigned, hereby give notice that this Exhibition will commence D.V. on April 15th, and continue open to the Public until August 15th, 1852, in a building constituted a Government Bonded Warehouse for the whole period. In addition to articles exhibited at the Crystal Palace it will embrace many attractive novelties, especially Paintings, Sculptures, and other branches of the Fine Arts.
Admission of articles is not confined to Exhibitors in Hyde Park, but is open to all parties applying for space (wall, counter, or floor) before the end of December.
All goods must be ready for shipping by February 1, and will be taken and returned, if unsold, free of expense to the owners. Only in case of sales being effected, the usual Commissions in the United States of Ten per Cent. upon Sculpture and Paintings, and Five per Cent. upon all other articles, with proportionate amount of freight and insurance, will be deducted, and the balance promptly remitted. No other charge, as for fittings, attendance, watching, &c., will be made.
Letters requesting space are to be addressed to the Office, No. 43, Clarges-street, Piccadilly, where any further particulars will be given.
G. BUSCHEK,
EDWARD RIDDLE.

PRIVATE TUITION.—A Married CLERGYMAN, Graduate in Honours, M.A., Oxon, receives a FEW PUPILS to EDUCATE for the Universities, or to Prepare for Holy Orders. His house is large and commodious, beautifully situated, standing on its own grounds, twelve miles from London. The highest references can be given.—Address, "Rev. R. B." Church Association, Southampton-street, Strand.

MR. COLART, Tutor to the Royal Children of France, and to H.M.F.M. the Queen of Portugal.—Mr. A. DU VAL, Pupil and Son-in-law of the late Mr Colart, has RESUMED his FRENCH CLASSES for YOUNG LADIES, from the age of Six to Eighteen. Six in operation. Prospectus sent, when requested. Evening Classes for Gentlemen. Mr. & Madame DU VAL also give Private Lessons. Richmond, Windsor, Norwood, &c. attended. Address, 40, Somerset-street, Portman-square.

WM. STODART & SON, 1, Golden-square, in consequence of the retirement of Mr. E. Stodart, (one of the present Partners,) beg to offer their manufactured STOCK of NEW and SECOND-HAND PIANOFORTES at very reduced Prices.

VISITING TUTOR.—A GRADUATE of London, of considerable experience in tuition, residing in the neighbourhood of Sloane-street, gives LESSONS in the usual Branches of ENGLISH EDUCATION, including Mathematics, Classics, and the Elements of French and German. He has prepared candidates for Addiscombe, Haileybury, and the University of London. References unexceptionable.—Apply, A. B., 2, South-street, New Brompton.

THE DEPOSITORS of WORKS of ART and INGENUITY in the GREAT EXHIBITION, and others, are respectfully informed that the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, incorporated in 1838, is CLOSED to the Public, for the purpose of receiving approved Deposits, for Sale or otherwise, without expense to the Depositors. Those who wish to embrace this opportunity should send their Works before the 1st of December, and they will then be fully particularized in the Catalogue.
The Institution will be RE-OPENED on the 8th of DECEMBER.
R. I. LONGBOTTOM, Secretary.

PRACTICAL DRAWING and PAINTING.—Mr. PHILLIPS respectfully informs his Friends and the Public that his STUDIO is NOW OPEN for CLASS PUPILS in OIL and WATER-COLOUR PAINTING, PERSPECTIVE, MECHANICAL DRAWING, and ANATOMY; embracing the Principles of Colour, Composition, and Effect. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from 4 to 6, and from 6 to 8. Terms, per month, 1l. 1s. Pupils prepared for the School of Design and the Royal Academy. A Class especially for Ladies. Lectures and various Works on Art for their advancement. No. 17, Nassau-street, Middlesex Hospital. Private teaching within fifteen miles of town.

LANGHAM BAZAAR, Langham-place, Regent-street.—These spacious GALLERIES, comprising an area of 12,000 superficial feet, situated in the most fashionable locality, are OPEN for the reception of Paintings, Models, Statuary, Articles of Virtù, Works of Fine Arts, and Manufactures of high order, FOR SALE, on Commission. The premises are excellently lighted, and may be considered nearly fire-proof. For Terms and Conditions apply to the Manager, personally or by post.

GEOLOGY.—Persons wishing to become acquainted with this interesting branch of Science will find their studies greatly facilitated by means of Elementary Collections, which can be had at Two, Five, Ten, Twenty, or Fifty Guineas each, arranged and sold by Mr. TENNANT, (Mineralogist to Her Majesty), 149, Strand, London.
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REVIEWS

Lectures on the History of France. By the Right Hon. Sir James Stephen, Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

HIGHLY estimating the literary powers of Sir James Stephen, we have read this work with feelings of much pleasure, mixed with not a little dissatisfaction. The style has both nerve and fluency,—easily adjusts itself to speculation and description,—is occasionally brilliant, and generally eloquent. It has nearly all the merits that belong to good popular writing addressed to the multitude of readers,—and may be classified with the best performances in reviewing. But, on the other hand, a work of this description is not what the world had a right to expect from Sir James Stephen in his high academical office of Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge. Of late years, not only the study, but the writing also, of history, has been pursued with considerable energy in this country. An English school of history has been formed. With living philosophical historians of the rank of Hallam, Thirlwall, and Grote, and many ardent aspirants to the favour of the historical Muse,—we expected, not unreasonably, that the Cambridge Professor's discourses on History should at least challenge comparison with the lectures on the same theme that have been delivered to students in the capital of France. Sir James Stephen has produced merely a popular book to take rank amongst Belles-Lettres. He has endeavoured to account for his production of such a work in his dedicatory and somewhat egotistical preface of seventeen pages,—which contains curious revelations of the state of education in England. We will let him here speak for himself, in reply to the questions which he has himself anticipated, of his having "lectured prematurely and published precipitately."—

"When, in the summer of 1849, Her Majesty was pleased to appoint me to be her Professor of Modern History at Cambridge, I consulted three, and three only, of my friends, as to the means by which I could most effectually discharge the duties of my office, appointing each of them that the History of France was the subject on which I first proposed to enter. 'In that case,' answered Mr. John Austin, * * 'your business will be to explain the institutions of the old French monarchy. There are no questions connected with the history of that country which so readily admit, or which so much require, illustration from a lecturer.' Mr. Macaulay's answer was, in substance, that, of all the fields of French History that of the wars of religion was the richest, and the least exhausted; but, he added, that no man could be competent to take possession publicly of that, or of any other, wide subject of historical inquiry, without a preliminary silence, and a particular preparation of at least two or three years. By yourself [Dr. Whewell], I was told,—that the arrangements so recently made for the better conduct of our academical studies and examinations, proceeded on the assumption, that the public duties of my own office would be undertaken and performed without delay—that the abandonment of them, even for a single year, would defeat one essential part of the general scheme, and would involve the rest in confusion—and that, therefore, the interests of the University required that I should do my best at once; and that I might do it with a good hope of a kind and indulgent acceptance of the endeavour. If I had consulted either my ease or my credit, I should have been guided by Mr. Macaulay's advice. But I soon became convinced that it was my duty rather to defer to Mr. Austin's opinion, and to yours. I therefore delivered, in Easter Term, 1850, the Lectures contained in the first of the accompanying volumes. In Easter Term, 1851, I added to them the Lectures contained in the Second Volume. I anticipate your answer, that thus far I have been explaining why I lectured prematurely, but that what it really wanting, is rather a defence for my now publishing precipitately. To render my apology on that head intelligible, you must allow me, in a phrase, to take a good offing.—In the year 1812, I ceased to be an undergraduate, and at once became so deeply immersed in the active business of life at London, that when, after an interval of thirty-eight years, I returned to Cambridge, it was a scene in which I found almost all the interest of perfect novelty. Most of the venerable old buildings were, indeed, standing, and amongst them a museum of them. I could still recognize some few of my old college contemporaries. But I soon ascertained that the revolutionary spirit, which is so active in our courts and parliaments, was not less wakeful in our collegiate halls and cloisters. If I had the pen of Edward Gibbon, I could draw from my own early experience a picture which would form no unmeet companion for that which he has bequeathed to us, of his education at Oxford. The three or four years during which I lived on the banks of the Cam, were passed in a very pleasant, though not a very cheap, hotel. But if they had been passed at the Clarendon, in Bond Street, I do not think that the exchange would have deprived me of any aids for intellectual discipline, or for acquiring literary or scientific knowledge. But, in 1849, I discovered, that not only those ancient undergraduate liberties were overthrown, but that even the traditions and memorial of them had passed away. They had given place to innovations which would have made the hair stand on end on those venerable sigs which were worn by the Heads of Houses in my time. All the old text-books in science and in literature had been superseded. All the public examinations had altered their character. Studies unheard of in the first decade of the present century, were either occupying, or contending for a fortunate place in our system of instruction. All our academical statutes had undergone, or were undergoing, revision. Reformatory enactments had succeeded each other in such number, and with such rapidity, as to exercise seven's the skill of the most practised interpreter of the law. Every principle of education, however well established, and every habit of teaching, however inveterate, had been fearlessly questioned, and not seldom laid aside. And, presiding over all this movement, I found one dominant mind, informed by such an accumulation of knowledge and experience, as might have become a patriarch, and yet animated by such indomitable hopefulness and vivacity, as might have been supposed to be the exclusive privilege of boyhood."

Thirty-eight years' absence from the University, and the labours of official life in London, with the peculiar habits of thought thus generated, were not the best preparatory course for one seeking to act as a teacher. The responsibilities of a literary essayist and those of a University professor are very different in their kind. The essayist addresses the various public; but the professor must occupy himself with the specialities of his position, not forgetting that he is mainly to address growing, not grown, natures. His professional position and its difficulties soon became apparent to our author, when he learned how almost entirely ignorant of the French tongue were the undergraduates of the University of Cambridge. His revelations on this point have come upon ourselves without surprise, and we hope they will arrest attention in the highest quarters. In stating his difficulties, Sir James Stephen says,—

"Thus I learned, that of the gentlemen whom I was to instruct and to examine, a considerable portion had no acquaintance with any modern language except their own, and that the most popular and elementary French works on the History of France were apparently unknown to a still greater number of them. Amongst such of them with whom I conversed, I found, therefore, an almost unanimous solicitude to be directed to some English book on the subject of French history, by the aid of which they might prepare themselves for what was to be taught in the lecture-room. I need not remind you that the only such books are Robertson's 'Introduction to the History of Charles V.' and the first volume of Mr. Hallam's 'View of the State of Europe during the Middle Ages,' or rather so much of that volume as is contained in its first and second chapters."

To expect any proficiency in German, Spanish, or Italian from the young gentlemen alluded to, was, in fact, hopeless. French as taught at young ladies' seminaries is probably not entitled to very great respect; but we feel pretty certain that the sisters of these undergraduates would not have been stopped by the difficulties which stood in the way of their brothers. Our readers generally will probably feel no little astonishment on learning that young English gentlemen of the social position of University students—aspirants for the Bar, the Church, and the Senate—knew so little of the language of the neighbouring nation. In the undergraduates' ignorance of French arose the necessity, according to our author, for this popular and elementary work on the History of France.

Taking, then, his volumes as they stand, we are bound to say that they are no more than a collection of graphic and highly-coloured sketches of French history,—yet they are not well fitted for a student's class-book. As an addition to our current Belles-Lettres, they will be welcomed by readers who like to see a vast variety of ideas marshalled before them without their own labour. But the work wants the weight of matter, precision of outline, and accumulation of facts accurately marked and traced out, which in class-books for learners is desirable. The thinking of the lecturer is addressed to the public at large,—not to the students at Cambridge. The author is too variously allusive in his dissertations for students to follow him; and he opens up before them a great variety of questions which he solves almost as quickly as he raises them. With the practice of lecturing by lectures he has not been familiar; and the importance of the subject will justify our making some remarks on the mode of teaching History in that form.

The historical lecturer, in arousing the moral curiosity and stimulating the literary appetite of his class, should be aware of substituting vague and specious generalities for solid matter and exact instruction. To prevent students from acquiring a loose habit of thinking should be amongst his cares,—and he should fix their attention upon matter as much as possible. His own opinions should not be perpetually obtruded,—and he should not keep his hearers tossing on a sea of speculation. The course followed by M. Guizot is the proper one. In discussing past ages, he not only cited from memoirs and suggestive public documents, but read copious excerpts from these. So, the attention of his audience was fixed on the subject-matter of the lecture,—not on the rhetoric of the speaker himself. Dugald Stewart and Dr. Brown, in their Lectures on the Human Mind, were most profuse in their recited passages from the poets and philosophers whom they made tributary to their themes. By his lectures on the Law of Nature and Nations, at Lincoln's Inn, Sir James Mackintosh won great applause. One lecture only has been preserved; but we know from Hazlitt's graphic description of the whole that he also was most copious in his citations of writers. In fact, there are two modes of lecturing:—in the one the lecturer keeps himself in the background, and carefully chooses his matter; in the other, he disserts from his own resources, and weighs facts and opinions by his own standard of criticism. To be eminent in the latter course demands the more originality and genius; but the former course—that exemplified by Stewart, Brown, Mackin-

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toab, and Guizot—is far the better and more useful for a lecturer on the moral sciences. Without copious examples to vivify and actualize the teaching of the lecturer, a course of general reflections will rapidly pass from the memory of young men. In the class-room substantial learning of his subject, and not showy style in teaching it, should be the rule of the professor. The literature appertaining to his subject should be carefully cited and criticized; and in each lecture the attention of the class should be specially directed towards those works in which they would find knowledge further to confirm and illustrate the professor's views. It was in this fashion that the late Prof. Smythe taught his class at Cambridge.

In the Lectures now before us the mind and idiosyncrasy of Sir James Stephen are prominent. They are, from first to last, a two-volume review. A great part of the first volume is an epitome of what Guizot and Sismondi have written,—and much of the second volume looks like the *débris* of *Edinburgh Review* essays. To those who have never read Guizot or Sismondi on French history, these volumes must of course contain not only much information, but large and striking views, —at second hand. The narrative power, throughout, is very considerable; and raises the expectation that the author, with time and the trouble of research, could produce important historical works himself. But with the exception of the animated style, we repeat that this work has nothing original in its character; and as a class-book, in its present shape, it is not calculated to be very useful. A translation of Guizot's 'Lectures on Civilization in France' would be far more so to the Cambridge students. If he had taken the trouble to inquire, Sir James Stephen might have learned that these lectures have been translated, and were published in a cheap form in 'Bogue's European Library.' Millot's highly popular elementary work on the History of France has also been translated. It would have been more advisable for Sir James Stephen to have used expedients for a time in teaching his class, than to have thus published a work which will not add to the fame of the Chair of History at Cambridge. He should make many changes in the next edition:—and of these changes we will indicate three. First—He should prefix a chapter, containing his own general views on the uses of history, and the best mode of studying it. He has interspersed his lectures in their present shape with so much speculation, that the mind of the student is frequently distracted. Thus, we find in the middle of the first volume sixteen pages devoted to a refutation of "Sociology," as "invented by M. Comte, expounded by Mr. Mill, and adopted and illustrated by Mr. Grote." Secondly—An entire chapter should be devoted to the ethnology of the French. If the speculative views of M. Comte demand sixteen pages out of two volumes, at least as much should be given to the modern science of "Race." Indeed, our author seems to us to attribute too much to moral causes in the formation of the French people. Yet, even in stating his eight reasons why the Protestant Reformation failed in France, the first which he gives is that "the Calvinistic type which Protestantism assumed in France was alien from the *national character*." He should discuss the formation of that character more fully:—and the subject of "race" in France opens up many curious views. The department of the Gironde supplied the Revolution with vast impulsive force; and on the other hand, Mirabeau pointed out Normandy as the place to which the King should be removed for safety, on account of the superior "adhesiveness" of the population there. In considering Scepticism in France, our author is again obliged to fall back upon "the natural character." He would do well, therefore, we repeat, to expound French ethnology with more special reference in the next edition. Thirdly—To fit the work for students of the History of France, there should be at least two chapters on the Literature of French History,—criticizing the works in which the materials of that history are contained. The own statement of the ignorance of languages that prevails amongst the Cambridge Undergraduates, Sir James Stephen will see the necessity of giving more exact references to French works, and careful estimates thereof.

Passing from it as a book for students, and viewing it as a book for the public, we may say that there is a large class of readers with whom this work is calculated to be very popular just now. The heartiness of style, the warmth of tone, and the decisive character of the judgments rendered, will recommend it. It would be violating our rules to allow the writer into any of his polemic disquisitions. We may say that those who admired the *essay* on 'Port Royal' will find many sketches of character in the second of these volumes treated with picturesque effect. Sir James Stephen has, in his preface, disclaimed any intention of rivalry with Mr. Macaulay; yet, for writing history, there are many points in common between them. Both have great powers of writing for "effect,"—both are fond of "word painting," making their language glow with the *ardentia verba* of an impassioned rhetoric. But Sir James Stephen has less of partisanship, and is more tolerant of opposition than Mr. Macaulay. The depth of his personal convictions on certain momentous questions gives a vital force to his composition, arising from what the Germans call "inwardness," or what we would call reflectiveness and moral questioning.

We will select a couple of passages to show the very readable and "interesting" character of these Lectures. In his remarks on "The power of the pen in France," Sir James sketches the phases of French Scepticism.—

"The Pyrrhonic School, or succession of the men of letters of France, may be deduced from Abélard as its patriarch, through Rabelais, Montaigne, Des Cartes, and Pascal, and many intervening but more obscure writers, till it reaches Bayle, Montesquieu, Voltaire, and the other contributors to the Encyclopédie of the 18th century. It was the common design of them all, though that design was not avowed by them all with equal frankness, to embark on the voyage for the discovery of truth from 'provisional doubt,' as their common point of departure; that is, from a total absence of all positive opinions whatever. * * By scepticism, as I at present employ that word, I do not mean the suspension of the judgment on each successive subject of inquiry, nor that freedom of mind which, in the result of any such inquiry, can lay aside the most cherished preconceptions, and embrace truth, even if she at length presents herself in a form the most unexpected and unwelcome. Without such scepticism as this, the search for truth is but a mockery; and the inquirer, however much he may vaunt his freedom, is, in fact, a bondsman. The scepticism which I impute to so many of the great French writers, is a very different state of mind from this. They were opinionists, and were content to be so. They were destitute of settled convictions, and acquiesced in the want of them. Even so far as they could attain to any definite creed, they held by it faintly and irresolutely. They had no faith which they were ready to attest by any considerable sacrifice; none to which they clung as an indestructible part of their portion in this life, or of their inheritance beyond the grave. If, as I am constrained to infer, Abélard, and Rabelais, and Montaigne, and Bayle, and so many others of their illustrious lineage in France, were in this sense of the word sceptics, it seems to me to follow inevitably, that a large part of their readers were sceptics also. For they became illustrious, precisely because they were the faithful interpreters of the thoughts and feelings which had already been born, or were struggling into life, in the minds of their contemporaries. Their popular acceptance and their fame were earned by that fidelity. They would have vindicated Pyrrhonism in vain, and would have been unrewarded by the laurel in any land, of which the prevailing tendencies were not already Pyrrhonic. They gave to those tendencies a strength and a decision, which would have been unattainable without their aid; but though they fostered, they did not create them.

"That scepticism has long been among the national characteristics of Frenchmen, I infer, not merely from the general tone of so much of their literature, but also from that peculiarity of it which French critics make their boast. It bears, as they very truly say, constant witness to the national passion for abstract ideas. That passion, indeed, animates not their books only, but their discourses in the senate, in the pulpit, and at the bar. It takes possession of their clubs, and even of their private society. No aspirant after wit or wisdom in France can make proud his pretensions, unless he knows how to scale the transcendental peaks of philosophy. To this species of the sublime, they are ever ready to sacrifice even the beautiful. The fine mental sense of Greece (where the love of beauty was a national and universal instinct) would have rejected, with unmitigable scorn, those supersensuous embellishments with which Frenchmen, especially in our own times, rejoice to adorn their poetry, their history, and their rhetoric. For, in truth, such ornaments are as cheap and vulgar as they are unbecoming. Any man of common intelligence may be easily trained to any legerdemain of the understanding—to the making of antinomies, for example, as easily as to the making of jokes or the making of verses. The production of apophthegms is a hard task to him, and to him only, who allows himself to utter no words, without both a definite meaning and a profound conviction of the truth of what he says. The three and labours of a long life preceded the birth of each of the sayings for which as many of the sages of Greece have been immortalized. But the writer of the newspaper which lies on your breakfast table at Paris, is never without his pearls of superlative wisdom to scatter over his account of yesterday's review or opera. Whence then is this national habit of quitting the solid earth for the hazy clouds? It is nothing else than the love of that 'provisional doubt' in which these aéronauts find their pleasure and their glory. By the aid of these metaphysical jugglers of words, they sublimate, darken, and dissolve all doctrine even without the express and formal contradiction of any. They live in a region of half meanings, or of no meaning,—in a state of contented, though perhaps unconscious, scepticism. Wedded to no settled opinions, but, dallying with all, they pass, in a few brief years, through all the phases in which political society has ever exhibited itself amongst men, though never lacking 'pure ideas,' still which to polish periods, and to darken counsel, about each. The France of the last sixty years has, indeed, been in a state of chronic and unnatural distortion. But her intellectual habits were not, and could not have been, essentially different when the halls and gardens of Sin. Geneviève were thronged with the disciples of Abélard, or when the booksellers' shops were besieged by purchasers of the Gargantua, or when the ladies of Versailles were writing Cartesian letters. The enthusiastic popularity of their sceptical philosophers, from age to age, been at once the effect and the cause of that state of the national mind, of which we may read the results in every page of their national history. That history exemplifies, despite a people gallant, gay, ingenious, versatile, and ardent, beyond all rivalry and all example. But it also sets before us a race more destitute than any other of profound and immutable convictions, and, therefore, less capable than any other of a steady progress in the great practical science of constitutional government,—a people who are, at one time, the sport of any demagogue who can veil his selfish ambition under the cant of pure ideas; and, at another time, the victims of any despot who may be strong enough to trample both

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the ideologists and their verbal service under his feet. To have induced, or cherished, this mental temperament is, I believe, the well-founded reproach of the 'Pyrrhonic succession' in France."

This is very clever writing—though the entire passage from which we have only extracted is in parts open to criticism. "Indifferency" was the state of mind recommended by Locke to inquirers after truth:—and Paley said "that doubt is the parent of belief." But we decline to go into any criticism on the philosophizing of our author here.

Sketching characters is the *forte* of Sir James Stephen. He is very happy in painting the general characters of a mind that he has analyzed. We know few more vivid or felicitous portraits of Montaigne than he has here presented us with:—and there are several other characters nearly as well depicted in the gallery of pen-and-ink portraits, with which Sir James has filled his second volume.—

"With a temper easily satisfied,—with affections as tranquil as kindly,—with a curiosity ever active, but never impetuous,—with competency, health, friends, books and leisure, Montaigne had all the means of happiness which can be brought within the reach of those to whom life is not a self-denying existence but a pleasant pastime. Yet, with him, it was the pastime of an active, enlightened, and amiable mind. The study of man as a member of society was his chosen pursuit, but he conducted it in a mode altogether his own. The individual man, Michel Montaigne, such as he would be in every imaginable relation and office of society, was the subject of his daily investigation. He became, of all egotists, the most pleasant, versatile and comprehensive. His produced complete sketches of himself with an air of the most unreserved frankness, and in a tone frequently passing from quiet serious-ness to graceful badinage. He describes his tastes, his humours, his opinions, his frailties, his pursuits, and his associates, with the most exuberant fertility of invention, and has wrought out a general delineation of our common humanity from the profound knowledge of a single member of it. And, as the variety is boundless, so is the unity well sustained. His essays are a mirror in which every reader sees his own image reflected, but in which he also sees the image of Montaigne reflecting it. There he is, ever changing, and yet ever the same. He looks on the world with a calm indifference, which would be repulsive were it not corrected by his benevolent curiosity about its history and its prospects. He has not one malignant feeling about him, except it be towards the tyrannous, and especially towards such of them as provoke his yawns and his resentment by misplaced and commonplace wisdom. He has a quick relish for pleasure, but with a preference for such pleasures as are social, inoffensive, and easily procured. He has a love for virtue, but chiefly, if not exclusively, when she exacts no great effort, nor any considerable sacrifice. He loves his fellow men, but does not much, or seriously, esteem them. He loves study and meditation, but stipulates that they shall expose him to no disagreeable fatigue. He cherishes every temper which makes life pass sociably and pleasantly. He takes things as he finds them in perfect good humour, makes the best of them all, and never burdens his mind with virtuous indignation, unattainable hopes, or profitless regrets. In short, as exhibited in his own self-portraiture, he is an Epicurean, who knows how to make the best dispositions tributary to his comforts, and also knows how to prevent his evil tempers from troubling his repose."

These extracts will show sufficiently the style of the Lectures before us. We repeat, that though this is not the kind of work we expected—and should have desired,—we can cordially recommend it as full of that vivid painting and trenchant dissertation which are so highly esteemed by the reading public of the present day.

LITERATURE OF THE EXHIBITION.

The Crystal Palace is closed,—its contents are scattered to the four winds,—but the inflow of books, sermons, pamphlets on its morals and its marvels has not abated. The literature of the Exhibition is already of considerable bulk as well as of great variety; and now that the event has become history, it behoves us to get done with the ephemera—the Catalogue and Guide-book tribe—which sprang up so plentifully around it in its day of vigorous life.

The most important of the works calling for notice in this clearing of the Exhibition-table, —and one which does not come under the head Ephemera—is, the second and completing volume of Mr. Robert Hunt's *Hand-Book to the Official Catalogues*. This work, of which Mr. Hunt is properly the editor, has been compiled by men of eminence in each department; and contains, in small compass, the best popular description of the collection as a whole that has appeared, or is likely to appear now that the affair is at an end. The present volume contains—Machines for direct use, Manufacturing Machines and Tools, Architectural and Building Contrivances, Carriages for common use, Glass, Mineral Substances used in decoration, Jewellery, Furniture, Silk, Woollen and Cotton Fabrics, Sculpture, Mosaics, and Miscellanies. Not only as a ready reference to refresh fading memories with the marvels no longer to be seen in the great glass case, but as a digest of information on all subjects connected with science and industry, these little volumes will deserve a lasting niche in the library.

To the list of special catalogues we have to add a *Catalogue of the Turkish Section*,—an interesting document, showing the distribution of various industries over that vast empire;—and to the list of new editions, the twentieth thousand of Routledge's *Guide to the Crystal Palace*.

Of *The World in its Workshops*, by Mr. James Ward, we can say that on the whole, though it is impossible to subscribe to all its opinions, it is characterized by graceful thought and a fine appreciation of the higher beauties developed in the Exhibition.—The Rev. W. Pashley, Curate of Sedgeberrow, and author of *Morning Stars: a Treatise on permanence, as suggested by the Grand Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations*, has presented his readers with a Chinese puzzle in this sky-blue and bespangled volume,—and if it should be any satisfaction to him to learn that he has confounded the critics, he may accept our assurance of the fact. Sermons on the marvels of the Exhibition we have had before, but this is about the wildest of them all; wearing a sort of resemblance—humble and remote it must be confessed—to Mr. Serjeant Warren's explosions in 'The Lily and the Bee.' We owe a sermon cognate in kind, entitled *Reciprocity for* 1851, to Dr. Emerton's offer of a prize of 100 guineas for the best Essay on the question—"In what the best Essay on the question—"In what respect is the union of all nations calculated to further the moral and religious welfare of mankind?" The arbitrators, it seems, rejected 'Reciprocity' in favour of a rival,—and the Rev. D. P. M. Hulbert, its author, now sends it forth to confound the arbitrators. At the end of his essay Dr. Hulbert carefully reprints all that we and others said at the time,—not in condemnation of the award, but in dispraise of the fortunate prize paper. He confidently challenges comparison between the two works. We are sorry to say, that, after a careful perusal of 'Reciprocity for 1851,' we cannot congratulate its author on having established a case of peculiar grievance. If all the essays sent in were of the like kind with the two which we have now had an opportunity of reading, we pity the adjudicators. But surely Dr. Emerton and persons like him will see from this and other cases the futility of offering intellectual and moral themes for contention. The men who can treat such themes never enter the lists,—lest they "their own gained knowledge should profane." Nothing good is achieved by such fixed and yet indiscriminate competition. We will venture to say that for his hundred guineas Dr. Emerton might have obtained sixty pages of close thinking and good writing, had he appealed to a writer of established reputation for aid. By the prize-system, he has gained an essay which it is almost civil to call trash,—and given discontent to a hundred or more competitors, their families and friends.

The only other work lying on our table at the moment is a reprint of Mr. Digby Wyatt's paper, read to the Institute of Civil Engineers, *On the Construction of the Building for the Exhibition*. Though delivered before a professional audience, this discourse is sufficiently popular in its form to be intelligible and interesting to general readers.

AMERICAN CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Book of Home Beauty. By Mrs. Kirkland. With twelve Portraits of American Ladies, from Drawings by Charles Martin, Esq.; engraved on steel by Eminent Artists.—*The Home-Book of the Picturesque; or, American Scenery, Art, and Literature: comprising Essays, &c.* With thirteen Engravings on steel, from Pictures by Eminent Artists, &c. New York, Putnam.

These are both magnificent books; and the care and cost which have gone to their production can be repaid only by a very extensive sale.—It is not long since [*only*, p. 680] we were led to comment on "the avidity with which our Republican kinsfolk desire to be on a par with us in all that is most sophisticated in European proceedings and tastes;" but scarcely did we expect to receive so signal a warrant to the truth of our remark as this 'Book of Home Beauty.' Its twelve clever engravings are not after pictures in which the Allstons and Sullys of the New World have given to the loveliness of the Transatlantic *Mona Lisa* or *Fornarina* that artistic consecration which removes it beyond the pale of watering-place curiosity and drawing-room enthusiasm. They are spirited transcripts of pretty drawings made apparently on purpose, and equalling in style those which have been furnished to our boudoir books by Messrs. Parris, Roebard and Buckner. It may strike strangers as curious that a dozen American married ladies should have followed the foolish fashions of our *Ladies Rosabella* and *Countesses Angelica*, by consenting to have their lilies and roses published without any high art being involved in the publication or any great renown warranting the display,—till he recalls the amusing and minute inventories of the gifts and graces of damsels and matrons at Saratoga and Yellow Springs, and half-a-dozen watering-places besides, which may be seen crowding the columns of American papers. That some little home-awkwardness and delicacy have been felt on the occasion, may be gathered from the tone and style of the letter-press by bright, cheerful Mrs. Kirkland. This is oddly—lack-a-daisically—unreal, and cautiously guilless of any reference to the pictured ladies. Not an acrostic have we to Mrs. Hickson W. Field;—not a wish in verse that the bloom of Mrs. S. Ward may never fade,—or, that no care may furrow the brow of Mrs. W. B. Parker. The gallant partner of Mrs. Haight is uncomplimented,—the ancestral home of Mrs. F. van Rensselaer is a

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'Yarrow *Unvisited*.' The "Home Beauties" of Mrs. Kirkland's country, in short, go forth to the public without a word said or sung of, for, or to them,—our own polite, common-place, and utterly heartless fashions on such occasions being thus departed from. In place of invocation or compliments, clever, cordial *Mrs. Mary Clavers* has thought fit to spin a story partly modish, partly transcendental,—compared with which the rudest backwood sketch scrubbed in or scratched down by her in her earliest days is a document of untold value. Who can be expected to read through a chronicle of imaginary girls, in place of the real Madams painted and engraved, the preface of which runs in this style?—

"The desire to embroider our simplicity with accredited graces has given to our expansive pages the air of those calm lakes whose uniformity is broken by multitudes of beautiful islands, bright reflections from which give to the surrounding water a variety and a charm not its own."

The above, it may be necessary to add, is in explanation of the quotations of verse with which Mrs. Kirkland has liberally lightened and varied her pages. We English must confess to having set the fashion of public portraits of private *Phœbes*, *Penelopes*, *Paulinas*, and *Priscillas*; and thus, while we notice the American imitation of it, we feel, together with our sorrow at our cousins' conformity, uneasy twinges of remorse. But Mrs. Kirkland's "embroidered simplicity" has no prototype in the prose and verse over which L. E. L., or Lady Blessington, or any other English Annual editor has presided; and the printed portion of this superb drawing-room book is sadly inferior, both in meaning and in manner, to the tales and lyrics published in 'The Gem,' 'The Token,' and other such Transatlantic *ephemera*.

If the "Beauty" bears the bell on the other side of the Atlantic, the "Picturesque" will prove the more acceptable of these two books in England.—Many, like ourselves, will turn with avidity to these records of American scenery by American landscape painters. Good justice has been done by the engravers: and a few of the subjects fulfil the promise of the title. Especially do we like the vignette of 'The Cascade Bridge, Erie Railroad,' for the sake of its character. We would fain make acquaintance with something belonging to a strange land more than those combinations of rock, river, and lake which are Nature's common property;—and therefore we cannot but ask whether the artists have been sufficiently courageous and national in the choice of their home features? Having heard of such wonders of Nature as Hawk's Nest, the Mammoth Cave, and the Looking Glass Prairie, and conceiving that as we travel south the physiognomy of vegetation as well as of population must become increasingly peculiar,—we would beg for more variety in any future volume of this work. Meanwhile, let us specify Mr. Kensett's 'Catskill Scenery' as one of the landscapes which has pleased us best; because it is free from a certain insipidity and stiffness in the treatment of the trees and foliage which we have remarked in other of the designs. Then, who should write about 'Catskill Scenery' but the *Geoffry Crayon* who gave it first an European reputation by his capital legend of 'Rip van Winkle'?—and pleasantly, accordingly, Mr. Washington Irving has written, to illustrate the striking landscape in question.—

"The Catskill mountains," says he, "as I have observed, maintain all the internal wildness of the labyrinth of mountains with which they are connected. Their detached position, overlooking a wide lowland region, with the majestic Hudson rolling through it, has given them a distinct character, and rendered them at all times a rallying point for romance and fable. Much of the fanciful associations with which they have been clothed may be owing to their being particularly subject to those beautiful atmospheric effects which constitute one of the great charms of Hudson River scenery. To me they have ever been the fairy region of the Hudson. I speak, however, from early impressions, made in the happy days of boyhood; when all the world had a tinge of fairy land. I shall never forget my first view of these mountains. It was in the course of a voyage up the Hudson in the good old times before steamboats and railroads had driven all poetry and romance out of travel. A voyage up the Hudson in those days was equal to a voyage to Europe at present, and cost almost as much time; we relished it as we did our wine, sip by sip,—not, as at present, gulping all down at a draught without tasting it. My whole voyage up the Hudson was full of wonder and romance. I was a lively boy, somewhat imaginative, of easy faith, and prone to relish everything which partook of the marvellous. Among the passengers on board was a veteran Indian trader, on his way to the lakes to traffic with the natives. He had discovered my propensity, and amused himself throughout the voyage by telling me Indian legends and grotesque stories about every noted place on the river, such as Spuyten Devil Creek, the Tappan Sea, the Devil's Dans-Kammer, and other hobgoblin places. The Catskill mountains, especially, called forth a host of fanciful traditions. We were all day slowly tiding along in sight of them, so that he had full time to weave his whimsical narratives. In these mountains he told me, according to Indian belief, was kept the great treasury of storm and sunshine, for the region of the Hudson. An old squaw spirit had charge of it, who dwelt on the highest peak of the mountain. Here she kept Day and Night shut up in her wigwam, letting out only one of them at a time. * * * He had many stories, too, about mischievous spirits who infested the mountains in the shape of animals, and played all kinds of pranks upon Indian hunters, decoying them into quagmires and morasses, or to the brinks of torrents and precipices. All these were doled out to me as I lay on the deck throughout a long summer's day, gazing upon these mountains, the ever-changing shapes and hues of which appeared to realize the magical influences in question. Sometimes they appeared to approach; at others to recede; during the heat of the day they almost melted into a sultry haze; as the day declined they deepened in tone; their summits were brightened by the last rays of the sun, and later in the evening the whole outline was painted in deep purple against an amber sky. As I beheld them continually shifting before my eye, and listened to the marvellous legends of the trader, a host of fanciful notions concerning them was conjured into my brain, which have haunted it ever since."

Another agreeable contribution to this book is, Mr. Bryant's paper on 'The Valley of the Housatonic.' Hard by his well-known and honoured name, we meet that of the late Mr. Cooper, who—in his Essay— somewhat characteristically compares American and European scenery.—Mr. Bayard Taylor has written pleasantly concerning the Erie Railroad, which furnishes our favourite vignette. Mr. N. P. Willis, in painting out the capabilities of 'The Highland Terrace at West Point,' starts, as he often does, with a *mot*, so neatly turned as to be worth quoting.—

"There are three compulsory and unnatural residents in cities," says he, "whom the improvements of the age are about to set at liberty. But for the inconveniences of distance, Taste, Study, and Luxury would never willingly have lived in streets."

We could linger over this splendid gift-book, did time and space permit.—Its acceptance should, and we hope will, be wide; and if it be continued,—by way of cordial Christmas wishes to all concerned in it, we would yet once again counsel them in future selections of "the picturesque" to venture more of what is characteristic and national.—They will thus best serve American art and literature at home and abroad.

A Popular History of the Mollusca. By Mary Roberts. Reeve & Benham.

The chapter of the external forms of animals and plants is in the history of Zoology and Botany that of their earliest stage of existence. Descriptions of the colour, shape, and outward characters of natural objects characterize the young literature of Natural History. As, however, science advances, observation shows that the external form is dependent on an inner life; and that this life has peculiarities of developement and is connected with details of structure that constitute of themselves objects of higher interest to the contemplative mind than even the beauties of outward appearance.

The above remarks may be illustrated by the study of the Mollusca. These creatures, covered as most of them are with external skeletons constituting the varied forms of univalve and bivalve shells, were known only by these dwelling places, which they carried on their backs or in which they were enclosed. Large collections of them were made; and the study of Conchology was at one time almost a fashionable amusement amongst a certain class of persons in easy circumstances. Their exceedingly varied forms, their bright colours, the polish which they could be made to assume, the rarity of some and the wonderful beauty of others,—all contributed to render them amongst natural objects the most interesting. Of all departments of Notural History literature that on Conchology was most patronized,—and many splendid works has it produced. But the shell of the Mollusc is to the creature which it contains as the skeleton of the Fish, Bird or Mammal to the soft parts with which it is covered. A profounder examination of the structure of animals and a deeper insight into the laws of life have given a new interest to the study of the creature which inhabits the shell,—and revealed facts in its history not less interesting than the brightness of its colours and the curiosity of its forms.

To give a popular account of what has been done in this department of Natural History inquiry is the object of the present volume by Miss Roberts. The authoress is already favourably known to British naturalists by her 'Conchologist's Companion,' and by other works on Natural History; and her work being published under the auspices of Mr. Lovell Reeve,—whose own labours on this branch of science are so valuable,—we expected to find in it a useful and entertaining volume.—We have not been disappointed.

The work opens with a chapter on the "Construction of Shells;"—and in successive chapters their growth, habitation and geography are subjects of discussion. The families of Molluscous animals are then treated of in succession. First amongst these come the Cephalopods:—from the chapter on which we extract the following account of some of the species.—

"*Octopi* of enormous size are occasionally met with among the islands of the Meïa-co-shimah group. Sir Edward Belcher measured one of these ungainly creatures, which two men were carrying on their shoulders, across a pole. He found that each arm was rather more than two feet long, and that the mollusk could, in consequence, explore an area of more than twelve feet in circumference. The same naturalist frequently observed the *Sepiæ* and *Octopi* in full predatory activity; and he had great trouble and difficulty to secure them, so great was their restless vivacity, and so vigorous their efforts to escape. They darted from side to side in their watery haunts, or fixed themselves so tenaciously to the roots and stones by means of their sucker-like acetabula, that it required great strength to detach them. When captured and thrown upon the sand, they still progressed rapidly in a sidelong, shuffling manner, extending their long arms, ejecting their ink-like fluid

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in sudden violent jets, and staring about in a very grotesque and hideous manner, with their huge shining eyes, which at night are luminous, like those of a cat. Such are the tarrific relatives of the chambered *Nautilus:* creatures which have been mentioned in the earliest records of natural history, though little was known with regard to their immediate relation with the testaceous mollusks, until the appearance of a living *Nautilus*, during the last century, established this interesting fact. Two of the Cephalopods construct shells, and in only one such instance does the shell appear designed for the dwelling of its inhabitant; they are widely distributed throughout the globe, inhabiting deep waters, and seldom seen except at night. Some of the unclothed brotherhood possess an internal rudimentary shell: the Cuttle-fish (*Sepia*), for instance, has an oval plate; the Calamary (*Loligo*), a long horny shell, resembling a quill-pen; and the *Onychoteuthis*, a thin oblong shell, like a three-edged sword. The highly organized and finned, enjoy more rapid powers of locomotion than such as are encumbered with a shell, but are less adapted to find their home in very deep water. The *Sepia* is less protected than many others against the attacks of his enemies; but then he is provided with a mode of self defence which the well-armed *Nautilus* does not possess. He carries with him a small bag full of black, inky fluid, and when danger approaches he darkens with it the surrounding water. Thus enabled to elude the vigilance of his pursuers, he readily escapes; while the baffled foe is suddenly enveloped in a darkness deep as midnight. Proteus-like, he has other means of escape, and often may the wily creature be seen changing colour, after the manner of a chameleon, and bewildering his enemy, when in hot pursuit, by the strange aspect which he instantaneously presents."

These remarks are followed by accounts of the Paper and Pearly *Nautili*,—and of the *Spicula*. In all these descriptions Miss Roberts has availed herself of the most recent information, without giving those anatomical details which would be out of place in a work like the present.—Amongst the productions of the family of Mollusca used by man, the highest in point of value are pearls. These precious petrifactions from the interior of various species of bivalves are formed of the same substance as that which lines the interior of many of the shells of the Mollusca. We take from the authoress the account of their artificial formation.—

"The intrusion of some heterogeneous substance, such as particles of sand, into the stomach of the animal, frequently produces these curious extravasations. M. Réaumur elegantly terms them the nuclei, or primary causes, of the formation of each valuable gem; as the sagacious animals cover them from time to time with exudations of pearly matter in order to obviate the disagreeable friction which they necessarily occasion; and these exudations, as already noticed, form several regular lamellæ, resembling different strata of bezoars, though considerably thinner, and more delicate in their construction. Loose pearls are often found within the shelly covering of the *Mytilus*: when this is the case, they have been undoubtedly rejected from the stomach of the animal, and have fallen into the cavity of the shell; whilst such as are fixed, most probably owe their origin to some internal roughness. The observation of this curious fact most probably suggested the first idea of forcing the *Avicula* to produce pearls. It was known in the first centuries of the Christian era, and acted on by the ancient people who inhabited the coasts of the Red Sea, as we are informed by the philosopher Apollonius. 'The Indians,' said he, 'dived into the sea after they had rendered it calm, and perhaps clearer, by the pouring in of oil; they then induced the mussels, by means of some attractive baits, to expand their shells, and having pricked them with a sharp-pointed instrument, the liquor which exuded from the wound was received into a perforated iron, where it hardened gradually, and formed pearls of the finest water.' Modern naturalists are undecided with regard to the accuracy of this narration; yet there are various reasons to conclude that the people who lived on the shores of the Red Sea were acquainted with an artificial mode of producing pearls; and this opinion is additionally confirmed by the method now in use among the modern Chinese, who retain, with few alterations, the arts and customs of their ancestors. Pearl mussels, at certain seasons of the year, congregate in considerable numbers on the surface of the water, where they open their shells, and enjoy the influence of the sun. At this period the Chinese fishermen throw into each of them a small string of beads, formed of mother-of-pearl, which, becoming coated in the course of a few months, present the appearance of real pearls. No sooner is this curious process supposed to be completed, than the mussels are drawn up, and robbed of the treasures which they contain. The truth of this extraordinary statement is confirmed by the evidence of respectable travellers and the result of various experiments; to which Professor Fabricius adds the testimony of having seen, in the possession of Sir Joseph Banks, several Chinese *Chamæ*, in the shells of which were contained bits of iron wire, covered with a substance of a pearly nature. These wires had evidently once been sharp, and it seemed as if the mollusks, anxious to secure themselves against the intrusion of such unwelcome visitors, had encrusted, and thus rendered blunt, the points with which they came in contact. May not, therefore, the process employed in past ages be still practised? And are we not authorized in conjecturing that these bits of iron, which probably had slipped from the hands of the Chinese workmen, and remained in the animals, resembled the spikes noticed by Philostratus as being used by the ancient people who inhabited the banks of the Red Sea, for the purpose of pricking mussels?"

Beautiful as are the colours and forms of shells, they do not enter extensively into the decorative arts of Europe. Most of our readers, however, will, we think, recollect some beautiful specimens of flower and basket work consisting entirely of shells exhibited by the Countess Grey in the British Colonial Department of the Great Exhibition. They enter extensively into the ornamental parts of the dress of the barbarous inhabitants of the world,—and frequently form conspicuous objects of adornment in the houses of its civilized populations.—Many of the creatures contained in the shells of the Mollusca are eaten,—and of these the authoress has given ample notices.

The work is illustrated with eighteen plates, beautifully coloured:—in most instances affording a view of the structure of the animal. These drawings are not confined to the species living in shells:—the various species of land slugs, and the nudibranchiate mollusca, the slugs of the sea, are also described and figured.—We observe one omission in the work:—the absence of any allusion to the Ascidian mollusca. These creatures form a very interesting group; and no account of the Mollusca can be deemed complete without reference to them.

Travels in European Turkey in 1850. By Edmund Spencer. 2 vols. Colburn.

A good constitution, the habit of travelling, a certain familiarity with the dialects, native and foreign, spoken in the country, some perhaps unconscious prejudices in favour of the population as against their Moslem masters, and a desire to tell the truth, or what appeared to him the truth, as regards the present and possible future of the romantic regions lying between the Danube and the Mediterranean,—such would seem to have been Capt. Spencer's qualifications for a tourist in European Turkey. He began his travel at Semlin:—whence, as his title-page announces, he passed through Bosnia, Servia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Thrace, Albania, and Epirus. After this long land ramble, he sailed for the Ionian Isles and Greece; and returned to England by the Austrian provinces on the lower Danube, and through Hungary. The journey was one of great length, variety, and interest. It comprised districts rarely visited by wielders of the quill, and still more rarely by men having a sufficient knowledge of the Turkish and Sclavonian languages. Not every traveller anxious to improve his health and rest after exciting labours would care to venture into a region in which—besides the absence of beds, European saddles, and decent cookery—it is not safe to stir unless armed to the teeth. A pair of large Turkish pistols in the holsters, a sword, a formidable hanjar, a couple of Manton's best girdle pistols and a long rifle, made to sling across the shoulder—such was the amount of defensive armour in which our author, an old tourist in Turkey, found it necessary to invest himself for his friendly ride. We must say, however, that few occasions offered for his use of any of these weapons; but the answer to such a remark would probably be, that he might perhaps have wanted them oftener if he had been without them. Mr. Spencer assures us that good health, a little prudence, and a bold presence will enable a man to get on very well with the natives of these mountainous lands. He must, however, throw away all reserve; as a sturdy democratic spirit prevails, and every man is equal to another, whether Frank or pandour, merchant or swine-herd. "If you sit down to enjoy the noon-tide meal, it is more than probable that the Haiduc or the Ouskok, the shepherd or the Kiraidji, will sit down by your side, and help himself to your dinner as unceremoniously as if you had invited him." The tourist is warned not to adopt the Osmanli costume; as he will have to look for his best friend in the Rayah, with whom his character as a Frank will be his best passport.

We cannot follow Mr. Spencer through nearly a thousand solid pages of narrative, adventure, and reflection. Nor is it necessary that we should:—a few passages, admitting of separation from the text, will suffice to enable our readers to judge of the kind of interest which belongs to the entire work,—and will probably induce some of them to desire a more intimate acquaintance with a traveller having so much to tell. Here is a picture of Servia—the youngest member of the European family,—and a suggestion for the cause of its slow progress.—

"As we advanced into the interior, the country became more wild and desolate, immense forests of oak everywhere met the eye; amongst these were several patches of clear ground, just brought into cultivation, but instead of cutting down the trees to the root, four or five feet of each were left standing partially burnt, looking like a regiment of black soldiers quartered in a corn-field. Husbandry the most slovenly, and neglect of everything that adds to the comfort of civilized life, is still the distinguishing feature in the character of a Servian peasant. The villages and hamlets, few and far between, were merely an assemblage of huts, constructed of poles stuck in the ground, secured to each other with wicker-work, and plastered inside and out with clay, and then covered with reeds, or some description of sedge, to keep out the rain, with the everlasting hole in the roof to serve as a chimney. Attached to these villages and hamlets were vast sheds for the accommodation of their flocks and herds during the severity of the winter, the whole encircled with a strong palisade, as a defence against the attack of the prowling wolf, and other beasts of prey. In some situations, for instance, on the undulating sides of a hill, we found some of these huts, simply excavated out of the earth, the soil above supported by poles, and beams of wood as a roof; while the hole in the centre, doing the duty of a chimney, served at the same time as a dangerous pitfall at our horses' feet, and as a medium for observing the movements of the family beneath. Still, however primitive might be these huts, I have frequently seen the lord and master issue forth with head erect, splendidly attired, and armed to the teeth,

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like soma feudal lord of the middle ages; while the gentle Baba herself would be decorated with as many gold ornaments and gold coins as might suffice to furnish her daughter with a handsome marriage dowry. In point of fact, the Servian is both by principle and inclination a man of war; and now that he is free, he loves to decorate himself in all the warlike finery of the haughty Arnout, that so long trod him under foot. If you ask him, knowing that he has the means, why he does not build himself a more commodious habitation, he will answer by saying, that the war between the Turk and his own race has only commenced, and will never end till his brethren of Bosnia, Herzegowina, and Upper Moesia are free, and concludes by telling you, that until then, it would be the height of folly to waste his money on an object so liable to destruction, in his next, and not far distant, struggle with his old enemy, the Turk."

Reminding our readers of Mr. Spencer's prejudices against the Turkish race, and of his determination to see in every event, favourable or unfavourable, a symptom of the decline of their government,—we turn to his sketch of the famous Bulgarian insurrection,—a narrative of romantic interest even for west Europeans, and instinct with national character.—

"In the year 1841, one of the beautiful Rayah peasant girls, so frequently found in these provinces, attracted the attention of the nephew, and adopted son, of Mustapha, Pacha of Nissa. After many ineffectual endeavours, through means of his agents, to seduce the poor girl, with the assistance of his guards he surprised her at a Colo, in the midst of her friends, while dancing with her betrothed. The peasants, infuriated with raki and the excitement of the dance, rushed forward to rescue the screaming girl from the hands of the ravisher, but they were unarmed, and in spite of all their efforts saw the innocent victim carried away in triumph; during the contest several of the peasants were severely wounded,—and one noble fellow, who displayed great strength and determination, was shot dead. The wretched lover, inconsolable at the loss of his Agapin, for such was the name of the girl, flew to the mountains, and laid his griefs before an assembly of the Haiducs. The recital of the atrocious deed excited the indignation it deserved; better would it have been had the Pacha's son rode rough-shod over the land, and squeezed the last para from the unresisting Rayah, than to have so publicly dishonoured a maiden of their race. * * The contest was not confined to the defile or the mountain, it raged with all the bitterness of intense hatred alike in the towns and villages. The Haiducs having made themselves masters of all the passes leading to Constantinople, for a time intercepted every communication with the Government. Meanwhile a Haiduc, one of the comrades of Tzerni George, known by the name of Milo, and a fanatic Papa of Leskovatz, in Upper Moesia, carried everything before them. Success gained them recruits, and in a few days Pacha Mustapha found himself besieged in his fortress at Nissa by an infuriated horde of Rayahs, amounting it is said to upwards of fifteen thousand. When it was too late the Pacha restored the Helena of the Slavonians to her people; the details of the miseries she had suffered, her dishonour, her forcible recantation of the creed of her fathers, only tended the more to exasperate the insurgents, who now massacred every Mahometan that fell into their hands. The Pacha, as a last resource, solicited the mediation of the high dignitaries of the Greek Church, whom he won over to his interests, at the sacrifice of a large portion of his ill-gotten treasures. He also sent rich presents, and an embassy in the person of the Greek Bishop of Nissa to Michaeli, the son of Prince Milosh, who at this time governed Servia, requesting him to intercede with the infuriated people. Relying on the promises made by the Pacha to the clergy of the Greek Church assembled at Nissa, that their grievances should be redressed, threatened with excommunication, dreading the invasion of their country by Prince Michaeli, who declared he would unite his army with that of Turkey, the greater number of the insurgent peasants sullenly and reluctantly returned to their homes. The Mahometan is ever treacherous in his dealings with the Rayah; and the perfidious Mustapha of Nissa having united his forces with those of Hussein, the Pacha of Widin, commenced those barbarous butcheries, from the details of which the soul of every man possessing a spark of humanity sickens with horror. It is recorded, that during this razzia the whole country leading from Nissa to Sofia was laid waste, and more than a hundred villages burned to the ground. At the same time the ravages of Jacoub Pacha, at the head of a vast horde of Musulman-Bosnians and Arnouts, almost surpass belief; their depredations were confined to Upper Moesia, extending from Nissa to the plains of Macedonia. The towns of Vrania and Leskovatz were sacked, and every valuable belonging to the Christians carried off; the churches were burnt, the clergy shot or dispersed, and the unhappy woman who was unable to fly for protection to the Haiduc of the mountain, was treated with the most revolting barbarity; and, as if fate had willed that there should be no refuge for the Rayah but the fastnesses of the Haiduc, the heartless Prince of Servia closed his frontiers against the fugitives, who were shot if they attempted to pass into Servia. A little conciliation on the part of these barbarous pachas might have allayed the irritation of the people, exhorted as they were to obedience by the high dignitaries of the Greek Church, and dreading excommunication; at the same time, the Sultan and his government would have been saved much humiliation and danger. The predatory hordes of Bosnia and Albania, intoxicated with success, and now that the valleys and defiles leading to their respective countries were deserted, having nothing to fear from the hostility of the Rayah insurgents, prepared to carry off on pack-horses to their own homes the immense booty they had acquired. But the eye of a vengeful people never sleeps; they were intercepted by bands of Haiducs, Ouskoks, and Klepts, who united to the peasants, now desperate, massacred every soul that fell into their hands to the amount of several thousands; and so great was the booty, including weapons and ammunition, that the spoil of the Arnout is still a proverb, and the victory the subject of many a spirit-stirring piesma among the Slavonian bards and story-tellers. Encouraged by success, the insurrection may be said to have only now commenced, several towns and isolated forts successively fell into the hands of the insurgents. Sofia and Nissa, together with many other important towns in Bulgaria, were again besieged, and even Stamboul was not secure, since the revolt had now spread into Macedonia, Thessaly, and Candia; and it may with truth be said, that the fate of the Ottoman Porte trembled in the balance, while the humiliated sovereign, to preserve his rule, saw himself obliged to seek the mediation of the Patriarch of Constantinople, and also that of the Russian Ambassador. The mediators between the sovereign and his people, in effecting a reconciliation, were aided by the industrious habits of the Bulgarian tribes, whose love for home and smiling fields prevailed over the excitement of glorious war, and they were again induced by many promises of ameliorating their social condition to give up the contest."

An interesting person is often found in these mountains in the shape of a Christian renegade. Mr. Spencer became acquainted with a man of this class, Hulil Effendi:—and tells in part the story of his career.—

"During our rambles in the mountains, he related to me some particulars of his past life—so full of tragic incidents as to appear almost a romance. His family name was a profound secret, never to be divulged; he, however, acknowledged, that when young, he had been a member of the brilliant *corps de garde* of Louis XVIII., and having talents, rank and wealth, he might reasonably have expected to become one of the leading characters of his country. Marriage, that lottery of life either for good or ill, was the means of blighting the whole of his future existence: having, in a moment of ungovernable fury, shot the seducer of his young and lovely wife—who, to render the tragedy still more revolting, was her confessor—without communicating his intention to a single friend, he fled France for ever and took his passage in a vessel bound from Marseilles to Egypt. Like too many of his countrymen, impetuous and imprudent, his mind embittered against Christianity, on account of the injury he had received at the hands of one of its unworthy ministers, on arriving at Alexandria, he embraced Islamism, and took the name of Halil Effendi. Patronized by Soliman Pacha, the young renegade speedily rose from one military rank to another, till at length his talents and bravery won for him the friendship of Mehemet Ali, and his son Ibrahim Pacha, who advanced him to the colonelcy of one of the finest regiments in the service. Destiny, to use his own words, which seemed to play with its victim, by allowing him to enjoy for a time the sweets of life, only to hurl him still deeper into the abyss of misery, again wrought his downfall. His countryman, Soliman Pacha, envious of his good fortune, and fearing a rival, became his enemy, and determined by secret machinations to effect his ruin, and for that purpose secretly contrived to circulate the most injurious reports of his character; among other things, he was accused of peculation, and only exonerated himself from the charges by submitting his conduct to the most rigorous investigation. Ever impetuous, his indignation against his calumniators knew no bounds: *coûte qui coûte*, he challenged several officers, who had been particularly active in propagating the reports to his prejudice; but as duelling is prohibited in Egypt under penalty of death, his cartels remained unanswered. This contempt for the laws of honour irritated the high-souled Frenchman still more, and while in this excited state, he met accidentally in the streets of Cairo, one of his accusers, an officer of high rank in the household of Ibrahim Pacha. Halil upbraided his adversary in the most indignant terms, who retorted with equal asperity, words were succeeded by blows: they fought, and the unlucky Frenchman had again the misfortune to imbrue his hands in the blood of his enemy—his opponent fell dead at his feet. To save his life he had no alternative but flight, and it required a swift dromedary to enable him to escape the pursuit of the officers of justice. Halil, however, succeeded in reaching Constantinople, where, having been introduced to the newly-appointed Vizier of Roumelia, he became his secretary and aide-de-camp. On the death of his friend, the Vizier, he was again compelled to seek some employment, when, after filling several unimportant stations in the civil and military department, the Government in acknowledgment of his services have recently given him the post of Instructor in Chief to the Nizam, at Bitoglia, with the pay of a Major in the Turkish service. The unlucky Halil, having now lost the fire and energy of youth, divides his time between his official duties, and in writing a history of the Turkish Empire, from its commencement down to the present day; and should he live to publish it, I feel assured, from the industry and talent of the man, it will be found to be a work of great interest; and being a good artist, he intends to embellish it with plates, illustrative of the costume and manners of the Osmanli, and of the numerous tribes and races subject to their rule in Europe and Asia."

However defective the government of the Sultan may be in some respects, Mr. Spencer does not succeed in conveying to his reader his own impression that the chaos which would ensue on its destruction would be better than—or even as good as—the present system. He bears witness to the ignorance—there being whole districts in which "not a single peasant knows his letters,"—the violence, the mortal antipathies of race and creed which exist in these great mountain gorges. He declares his conviction that neither Austria nor Russia can take possession of them; and his favourite notion seems to be, the establishment of a great Greco-Sclavon Empire or Confederation of States, like the Swiss Cantons or the American United States, with its capital on the Bosphorus. Into these speculations we shall not follow him.

As a written narrative, Mr. Spencer's volumes are very unequal. There are paragraphs in them exhibiting choice of language, something of style, close and consecutive thought, and a vein of deep political speculation. These, however, are rare. Generally, the narrative is heavy and uniform,—with no heights,

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no depths. But there is sometimes a looseness of texture surprising in a writer so long used to the pen as Mr. Spencer—neglect of the commonest rules of grammar, and slang phrases. These are defects most offensive in a narrative which affects a certain tragic dignity of tone and unity of subject.

Reminiscences of Thomas Chalmers, D.D., L.L.D. By John Anderson, Esq. Edinburgh, Nichol; London, Nisbet & Co.

Every new communication published respecting Dr. Chalmers, less or more, deepens our conviction that the man, distinct from the orator, was an individual well meriting study; and encourages the belief that a brighter and more various portraiture than those hitherto offered may one day be produced by some biographer who shall not overlook or cast into shade the humanities of his subject because of its theological and philanthropic value. To all who reject the idea of priestly infallibility, whether it wear Dalmatic, or surplice, or Geneva bands,—the backwardness in owning and representing mortal humours and characteristics that pervades most so-called religious biographies, begets a tantalizing and needless suppression,—one, too, calculated to damage rather than to assist the reputation of the seraphic persons protected. Mr. Anderson's book, moreover, is lean beyond the average,—and further, unnecessary. The matter composing it might have been well incorporated with Dr. Hanna's authorized life; and the reader would thus have been spared the "frequent *we*"—which in the mouth of a small man describing a greater one becomes almost as irritating as the "absolute *shall*" of the egotist in the drama.

The first twenty-six pages of this volume, comprising the first thirty-five (!) years of the preacher's life, contain only two traits that need detain us. One is, the saying of the "rough homespun lad" when a student at St. Andrew's, that "he would consent to live a' his life on *parritch and yill* for ae day in Lunnan:"—the other is, the figure of the divine in Kirkaldy,—clad in uniform, with a black gown above it,—which, in the energetic turns of his discourse, "slipped aside and displayed his military dress." The earnestness of desire, and the willingness to do, shown in these two touches of character had their part in the amazing influence exercised by the oratory of Dr. Chalmers from the first to the last. No one who has read his sermons can ascribe their impressiveness to mere manner,—or, as in the case of the far-famed Dean Kirwan, of Dublin, who preached the coats off the backs and the watches out of the pockets of his congregations, fail in the printed record to find traces of the magical persuasion exercised. Well is it that we have other witness to the power and eloquence of the Scottish clergyman than the bald notes of sermons taken by Mr. Anderson which fill so large a portion of this volume, and which are eked out by trite panegyric and commonplace comment. Let us give an instance. The effect of the commercial discourses delivered in Glasgow, Mr. Anderson tells us, was great and beneficial.—

"Among many anecdotes that might be related regarding them, we had one of the deepest interest communicated to us direct from the individual to whom it referred. He was a youth from the country, engaged as a salesman in a commercial establishment in Glasgow. A system then prevailed of the young men being instructed to demand a higher rate for their goods from intending purchasers than the price at which they were allowed to sell them. A wrangling ensued between the parties, and the most determined combatant gained the victory. After hearing these discourses, in which the preacher exposed many of the prevalent peccadilloes of traders, this young man was so struck with the immorality of the practice, that his conscience would not allow him to continue in the establishment. He threw up his situation, and was cast on the wide world, at a loss what to follow. He soon after got the offer of capital to begin business; and from that day everything flourished with him. He established the practice of selling his goods at fixed prices, from which he never deviated; and he has now become one of the merchant princes of Glasgow—one of the landed aristocracy of Scotland—ready and willing at all times to contribute his *hundreds* and *thousands* of pounds when any great or useful scheme of Christian philanthropy requires his aid."

There is too much of the tone of one recommending a "profitable investment" in this anecdote for us not to rank it among the serviceable stories and advertisements which formerly appeared in certain sectarian periodicals, and were handled with a reverent irreverence by that denouncer of all false morals—Sydney Smith. The story, if read by Dr. Chalmers of another man, would have provoked his outspoken and humorous comment.

The next hundred and fifty pages afford us little matter for remark or extract. Few or none of the various and felicitous illustrations with which Chalmers adorned his discourses were noted in the memorandum book of his inapprehensive *Boswell*. A record of one of the Doctor's speeches before the Presbytery of Edinburgh, however, is worth detaching, for the sake of the racy anecdote with which he enforced his argument.—

"*Thursday, 23rd January*, 1834.—The local grievance of the Annuity Tax, to which we have already referred, was discussed in the Presbytery of Edinburgh. Dr. Chalmers spoke at considerable length on the subject. The Magistrates of Edinburgh had put high seat-rents on the churches where popular clergymen preached. He was opposed out and out to this system. He held that sittings in all the churches should be either free, or let at very moderate rates, for the benefit of the poor. After some observations on the annuity tax, he went on in an easy and jocular style to say:—'Suppose, for instance, that Bishop Butler had fallen upon our day, and that he had been put up to auction by the Magistrates of Edinburgh—for I maintain that the present system is nothing more than putting up the ministers to auction;—if that were the case, he would have fetched a low price—the sittings would have been got cheap—and, perhaps, he would scarce have drawn a congregation..... He would have been accounted a dull and heavy preacher, though his fifteen published sermons have given him an immortal rank among Christian authors.... We were met with the utmost cordiality and courtesy in this matter, on the part of the magistracy; we had plenty of bowing and re-bowing. Now, I defer to the utmost to this complaisance and gentlemanly feeling; but it reminded me of a Glasgow story, relative to a Bailie Anderson, who resided there fifty years ago, and Lady Betty Cunningham. The Bailie happened to be an elder in the church of St. Enoch's, and Lady Betty a hearer. One of Lady Betty's old servants had fallen into decayed circumstances, and applied to the Bailie for parochial relief. The Bailie said, Lady Betty should relieve her own servants, and declined to accede to her request. When this was told to Lady Betty, she retaliated by going to church on the following Sabbath, with the firm determination of putting nothing in the plate; and the Bailie happening to be officiating at the door, she made the most profound courtesy to him as she passed, and sailed magnificently up the centre of the church. The Bailie was at first so much struck, that he stood aghast, and took a moment to recover himself. He then entered the church, and addressing Lady Betty in a voice so loud that the whole congregation might hear him, 'Gi'e us less o' your manners, and mair o' your siller, my lady.'"

As we approach the close of Mr. Anderson's volume its interest increases: since the great disruption of the Kirk of Scotland, in which Chalmers, when an old man, took so vigorous and unselfish a part, is an event momentous enough to give animation even to a memorial so frigid and egotistic as this. Let the schism have been doctrinally and logically defensible or not—let it have been wisely or foolishly undertaken,—such a display of earnest conviction attested by unshrinking sacrifice, in an age which has been branded as superficial and insincere, is a passage on which the lover of truth will always dwell with satisfaction. From the moment when the Strathbogie case became a vexed Kirk question, Dr. Chalmers appears calmly to have counted the cost of the controversy and warmly to have urged every one to provide for the extremest consequences. At a meeting of the Commission of General Assembly, held early in January 1843, he spoke out thus manfully.—

"I have the greatest possible dislike to pettifogging negociations; and, when great principles are involved, they ought to be utterly put to scorn. I always do lament anything like an indication of an inclination to have the affair huddled up; for the Church may rest assured, that although by such a plan she might be left the semblance of freedom, she would still be left open to the unrestrained incursion of a power against which the strongest munitions of ecclesiastical law would be of no avail to her. * * I hope that the practical policy of the Christian people of Scotland will be as vigorous and as strenuous now as if the certainty were staring them is the face that the Scottish Establishment is to come down—that they will be as energetic and determined in taking measures to provide the means of sustentation for the original Presbyterian Church of Scotland, as if the final sentence had gone forth against us. It is a most cruel and mischievous policy to defer the work of preparation at such a time as the present; and it is absurd to say that our preparing for the worst will at all precipitate or hasten on the crisis. * * I have no hope myself of a favourable issue to our struggle. Men won't see what we want, and therefore can't give us what we seek. I don't know a greater fatigue—it must be worse than a smith wielding a forehammer all day—than that of operating upon impracticable understandings."

This should have prepared many besides the separatists who cast in their lot with the fervent and direct speaker for the final result. Yet it seems to have taken bystanders by surprise,—to have confounded the calculations of those who opened a sporting list on the occasion. A foreigner would call this truly English,—but let us hear Mr. Anderson and Lord Jeffrey on the subject.

"*Thursday, 18th May*, 1843.—An eventful day in Edinburgh. Heard Dr. Welsh the Moderator preach before the Commissioner, the Marquis of Bute, and the members of the last General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the High Church. His text was, 'Be fully persuaded in your own mind.' He remarked, that a day so important had not occurred there for two centuries. There was silent and intense interest manifested during his discourse. On its conclusion, the General Assembly adjourned to St. Andrew's Church, George Street, where there had been a crowd from an early hour. At half-past two o'clock, Dr. Welsh arrived—took the chair, and opened the proceedings with prayer. He soon after rose and said—'According to the usual form of procedure, this is the time for making up the roll; but, in consequence of certain proceedings affecting our rights and privileges—proceedings which have been sanctioned by her Majesty's Government, and by the Legislature of the country, and more especially in respect that there has been an infringement on the liberties of our constitution, so that we could not *now* constitute this court without a violation of the terms of the union between Church and State in this land, as now authoritatively declared—I must protest against our proceeding further. The reasons that have led us to come to this conclusion are fully set forth in the document which I hold in my hand, and which, with permission of the House, I shall proceed to read.' This he accordingly did; it was listened to with breathless attention.

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Dr. Welsh then handed it to the clerk, vacated the chair, and left the Assembly, followed by Dr. Chalmers, Dr. Gordon, Dr. Macfarlane of Greenock, Dr. Thomas Brown of Glasgow, and the whole body of adhering ministers and elders. The effect was striking, the whole audience gazing intently on the scene. They were received with enthusiasm as they went along to the large hall at Tanfield, Canonmills, which was already crowded. * * A few days before the Disruption of the Church of Scotland, we met the learned sheriff of a northern Scottish county, who said—'People are all speculating about how many ministers will give up their livings at the approaching crisis. What do you say?' We replied, 'Four or five hundred.' Mr. L— said, 'If you are serious, you had better go to Blackwoods, and put down your number, and you may get the sweepstakes. There is a paper there where an individual writes down the number he thinks most probable, and he who has come nearest obtains the prize.' We think he stated that a celebrated professor had put down 150, and his brother, to outwit him, 151. Mr. L— remarked, 'You are far above any number I have heard named.' This anecdote, taken in connexion with the following, well illustrates the very different views entertained at that period of the number of disinterested men who would adhere to their principles at the expense of worldly sacrifice. It was related at a congregational meeting, and deserves to be recorded among the *memorabilia* of the Disruption, both for its own sake, and as contrasting the opposite views which prominent public men of the period took of the 'noblest deed of our time, and the noble men who did it.' On the day—the memorable 18th May, 1843—when the Disruption of the Church of Scotland was expected to take place, there met two men well known in Edinburgh society, and to the country generally—the one Mr. P— R— (now Lord R—), and the other Lord Jeffrey. Mr. R— was one of those who doubted the honesty and sincerity of the Non-intrusionists, and joined in the sneer of those who admitted that *perhaps* nine or ten of the men who had most deeply committed themselves might come out. Mr. R—, along with Lord Jeffrey, had gone that day to a place that overlooked the line of the expected procession, in the hope rather that sinister predictions might be verified, than that honour, and courage, and fidelity might be vindicated and exemplified. At last the long looked for moment arrived—the door of St. Andrew's Church was opened, and there issued forth Chalmers, Welsh, and Macfarlane, followed by a long continuous line of hundreds of their less known but not less determined brethren, and the Church of Scotland was on the streets, and *Free*. The eye could not number the blackening train—the prediction was not fulfilled, and the result was the exclamation—'The fools! thus to leave their fat livings for a whim!' Lord Jeffrey took a different view of the matter, and a truer and a nobler one. With deep emotion, his eye—that sharp piercing eye—filled with tears, he uttered the words—'Think God for my country! there is not another country in the world where such a deed could have been done!'"

The last pages of this book contain a few anecdotes;—two of which we shall extract.—

"On telling him that a person had remarked, that it was beneath his dignity to be going over Scotland delivering public addresses, he said, characteristically—'*Dignity! we might die of dignity!*' At his Divinity class, he used to instruct his man, John, to shut the door before the preliminary prayer, and not open it again till the conclusion of the lecture. John sometimes forgot this order, and admitted some who had been too late of coming. Once on hearing this, Dr. Chalmers said—'John, shut the door.' A second time, he said—'I say, John, finally, shut the door.' And a third time, 'I say, John, conclusively, shut the door!'"

Before leaving this book, we must again state that since our purpose has been to aid in completing a character of the man as distinct from the *preacher*, we have picked out and assembled some of the brightest passages from Mr. Anderson's book. Through the greater portion of it the reader will have to wade wearily, guided by one as full of pretension as he is inexperienced.

Commercial Law: its Principles and Administration. By Leoni Levi. Vol. II. Part I. Benning.

We are glad to perceive by the present publication that Mr. Levi has been able to proceed with so much rapidity and success in the prosecution of his laborious and difficult enterprise. His first volume treated of the Law of Partnership, of Contracts, of Merchants' Books, of Principal and Agent, and of Mercantile Persons. In the volume before us he has extended his researches to two other branches of the subject—the Law of Bills of Exchange and of Maritime Insurance,—both of great practical importance. In the present treatise there is no departure from the form and plan of procedure laid down by Mr. Levi at the commencement of his work. The Laws of each of the numerous lists of countries embraced in Mr. Levi's scheme are placed as far as possible in parallel columns under the same head; and considerable skill and judgment are displayed in bringing before the reader the substance and the most essential details of the codes of each State. It is, of course, quite beyond our province to enter into a legal argument on the numerous topics which present themselves in the course of so extensive a compilation. We can only indicate the general plan of the work, and express our satisfaction with the *bond fide* and able manner in which it continues to be worked out. The book itself, like a dictionary, must be kept at hand to answer difficult questions of comparative law whenever they arise; and we imagine that our public companies and our merchants will be glad to have the opportunity of adding such a compendium to that select number of volumes which—slightly varied in character to meet particular cases—are quite as essential at this time of day in the management of large commercial establishments as the ordinary day-books and ledgers.

We observe with satisfaction that Mr. Levi has succeeded to some extent in drawing the attention of the mercantile community to the desirableness of what he calls an International Code of Commerce. In London, a Central Committee in connexion with the Society for the Amendment of the Law has been appointed to consider the subject of an International Code; and branch Committees have been formed at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Birmingham for the furtherance of the same object. The reforms contemplated by these Committees are in their general nature in the highest degree desirable. But as we observed in a former notice of Mr. Levi's book, we would venture to point out, that a full and rigid dogmatic Code of International Commercial Law does not seem to be so desirable as the establishment of some general principles of uniformity as to procedure and practice among merchants, as regards fundamental laws already recognized in nearly all countries. It does not seem to be either possible or salutary to attempt the enforcement of anything so positive and unbending as a uniform Code, among communities which have scarcely a single characteristic in common. We are as anxious for the spread of facilities as Mr. Levi can be; but the end of wise laws is not always attained by ingenious schemes of regulation.

Mr. Levi has introduced at the conclusion of the treatise on Maritime Insurance a famous passage from the Report of the French Jurists to the Council of State on the title "Insurance" in the Code of Commerce. This passage has been rendered with great vigour by Duer in his American collection,—and of that translation we avail ourselves. Referring to the general spirit and principles of Maritime Insurance, the French reporters say,—

"Marine insurance may justly be deemed one of the noblest creations of human genius. From a lofty height it surveys and protects the commerce of the world. It scans the heavens, it consults the seasons, it interrogates the ocean, and, regardless of its terrors or caprice, defines its perils and circumscribes its storms. It extends its cares to every part of the habitable globe, studies the usage of every nation, explores every coast, and sounds every harbour. To the science of politics it directs a sleepless attention; it enters the council of monarchs, watches the deliberations of statesmen, weighs their motives, and penetrates their designs. Founding on these vast materials its skilled calculations, secure of its result, it then addresses the hesitating merchant:—'Dismiss your anxiety and fears; there are misfortunes that humanity may deplore, but cannot prevent or alleviate. Such are not the disasters you dread to encounter. Trust in me, and they shall not reach you. Summon all your resources, put forth all your skill, and with unfaltering courage pursue your adventures. Succeed, your riches are enlarged; fail, they shall not be diminished. My wealth shall supply your loss. Rely on me, and for your sake, at my bidding, the arm of your enemies shall be paralyzed, and the dangers of the ocean cease to exist.' The merchant listens, obeys, and is rewarded. Thousands, tempted by his success, follow his example. Those whom it had long separated, the ocean now unites. The quarters of the world approach each other, and are bound by the permanent ties of mutual interest and mutual benefit."

The present publication has the advantage of an elaborate statistical chart of the population, productions, and resources of the principal commercial countries of the world. We cannot say that we are admirers of overgrown statistical charts, because we have generally found that the enormous size and intricate columns of such compilations have been the precise causes which have interfered with their utility. The same labour expended on the same materials but exhibited in a more portable form would generally have rewarded the authors better and pleased the public more. It must be admitted, however, that Mr. Levi's chart is remarkable for the clearness of its arrangement and the comprehensive nature of its contents.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE

Reading for the Rail.—The Traveller's Library.—The announcement that the great publishers were about to meet the wants of the small and the hurried public and to issue volumes for their especial use, was very generally welcomed. It was obvious to those acquainted with the literature which has been of late so conspicuously put forth at railway stations that there was a large demand—that the public appetite was keen,—and that, without censure of the food provided, something more substantial was desirable, if only for variety. Whether Mr. Murray or the Messrs. Longman have exactly hit the requirements of the public, admits of a doubt. 'The Forty-Five,' by Lord Mahon, is a good taking title, but we question the success of any *three*-shilling volume:—and we cannot doubt that 'Essays' at *four* shillings is a mistake. We say this without any reference to the merits of the work. Travellers to whom price is of no consequence are not purchasers at railway stations. Messrs. Longman seem to be of our opinion,—and their little volumes are all issued at one shilling. The works divided into Parts I. and II. run counter to the principle:—and we think many of the titles of "The Traveller's Library" are open to misconstruction. A purchaser might not suppose when he bought 'Hallam's History of the Popes' that he was merely to get Mr. Macaulay's review of that work from the *Edinburgh*; and he might suppose that the titles 'William Pitt, Earl of Chatham,' 'Lord Clive,' 'Warren Hastings,' must the lives of those men,—not a review of the several lives, which, however comprehensive, is a very different thing. Of course, we are speaking of the general public:—for ourselves, and for enlig-

vated and informed persons generally, they are just such papers as we are glad to pick up when detained by accident at a railway station and with the prospect before us of a wearisome evening at a chance inn.

Literature and Life: Lectures. By Edwin P. Whipple, Author of 'Essays and Reviews.'—"Prosy, but rich and droll," was Miss Martineau's general character of American conversation. Of this we have been reminded by Mr. Whipple's 'Lectures.' The prosiness, however, makes the largest third in the compound. The subjects are, 'Authors in their Relations to Life,' 'Charles Dickens,' 'Wit and Humour,' 'The Ludicrous Side of Life,' 'Genius,' 'Intellectual Health and Disease.' In most of his discourses (which were delivered at sundry Literary Institutions) it may be discerned that Mr. Whipple has carefully meditated his subject, though he may not always have plumbed its depths. He has also collected numerous examples and anecdotes, unfamiliar and familiar. There is a general want, however, of perspicacity of view and of decision of language. Are these utterly to vanish from the Essay, because of our fear of dogmatism?—or because of our love of intellectual dissipation, which thirsts for pleasant songs rather than for those plain truths that grow importunate unless they be acted on?—There appears to be some chance of such a catastrophe on the other side of the Atlantic. Rarely has there ever existed a more practical people than the people of America. Their magnificent enterprises—their rapid growth in wealth and in the love of wealth—announce it. But rarely has there been, at any period of the world's literary history, such a body of hazy literature as now floats about in their cities and lecture-rooms. Inquiry without result has its fascinating side,—but also its perilous one. That which is the pursuit and purpose of the sincere may become the amusement of the insincere,—and, in spite of the vast essential difference betwixt the processes of the two seekers, the by-stander may not always be able to distinguish one from the other:—thus, in place of entering on a path which shall lead to some issue or eminence, finding himself lost in a maze merely built to amuse the pleasure-seeker by disappointing him.—This, however, is hardly the place for an essay on the American Essayists; and it must content us, for the moment, to indicate the subject as one of no common interest to the philosophical critic,—while recommending the present specimen of American literary speculation as moderately interesting and carefully executed.

Popular History of Ireland, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time. By the Rev. R. Stewart, M.A.—We have never seen a book that in so small a compass gives the reader a better idea of Ireland's past history than this work by Mr. Stewart. It is written in a thoroughly liberal and enlightened spirit, without undue leaning to any party, and in a popular and attractive style. No event of importance is omitted, and yet the book may be soon read through. The story is told in so interesting a manner that the reader quickly reaches the end. There are not many reflections, nor any dry discussions of knotty points. Pure history constitutes the bulk of the book. With this we do not quarrel, but we wish Mr. Stewart had not confined himself so exclusively to political events. If he had given some account of the social changes which Ireland has undergone—some sketch at all corresponding to the third chapter of Mr. Macaulay's first volume—his work would have been much more valuable.

Early Oriental History, comprising the Histories of Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Lydia, Phrygia, and Phœnicia. Edited by John Eadie, D.D.—This is another volume of the new cabinet edition of the 'Encyclopædia Metropolitana,'—and well deserves to rank with the rest of the treatises composing that valuable work. The greater part of it has been composed by Dr. Eadie, who has also carefully revised and enlarged the remainder. His object has been, to set before the reader a clear and succinct view of the present state of our knowledge with regard to the ancient nations of which he treats. Not merely the history, but the geography, climate, customs, religion, policy, and social characteristics of each are described. Advantage has been taken of the latest discoveries with regard to Egypt and Assyria. Bunsen, Lepsius, and Layard have been carefully consulted. On the subject of chronology Dr. Eadie writes in a liberal yet not random spirit. He shows clearly, from the great discrepancy existing between the several authorities—all possessing claims to our respect—that we have no reason to bind ourselves to any one, but may without hesitation accept such conclusions as the monuments fairly warrant, however they may clash with our pre-conceived notions. While he is careful to point out every confirmation of Scripture that ancient history supplies, he does not go out of his way or resort to any unjustifiable means for the purpose. Sobriety, good sense, distinctness of arrangement, clearness of style, and general completeness are the qualities by which his treatise is distinguished. It is rendered more attractive, as well as more useful, by the numerous woodcuts from authentic sources with which it is illustrated.

Catalogue of the Library of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Corrected to December 31, 1850.—A wish having been expressed for a catalogue of the library of Civil Engineers, as a means of knowing not merely what books are already there, but also what are wanting, that those who are disposed to make presentations may not be without guidance,—the Council gave orders for the preparation of the present volume, in the hope that authors and other members of the Institution will contribute such standard scientific works as are desirable. The names of authors and subjects are here arranged in alphabetical order. Under the head of each subject references are given to the writers who have treated of it,—and, by consulting the names of these writers, the reader may ascertain the titles of the books. Great labour has been usefully bestowed on this excellent catalogue.

The Chemistry of Creation. By Robert Ellis.—This is one of the works published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. We have before exposed what we consider the wrong of raising money for the publication of religious books, and then expending it on indifferent scientific ones. The public, however, which pays for the one and receives the other seem well satisfied:—we shall therefore content ourselves with simply again drawing attention to the fact.—This work by Mr. Ellis would, at any rate, have stood a better chance of gaining for him the credit which is his due had it been published under less doubtful patronage. It contains a great deal of clear writing,—and shows that the author is acquainted with the great facts of natural chemistry. It is one of those books which may be safely put into the hands of young persons for the purpose of developing in them a taste for the study of the natural sciences. We should, however, have supposed the author capable of doing far better things than this. As editor of the Great Exhibition Catalogue he will obtain a much more enduring reputation than any that can be gained by writing books to order for the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Adams's Oriental Text-Book and Language of Flowers, sq. 5s. cl.
Bartlett's Footsteps of Our Lord and his Apostles, engravings, 14s
Bible of Every Land; a History of Sacred Scriptures, maps, &c 42s.
Book (The) of One Syllable, col. engravings, 3rd edit. sq. 2s 6d. cl.
Boy's (The) Week-Day Book, 12mo. 3s. cl.
Bridge's Exposition of the 119th Psalm, 20th edit. cr. 8vo. 7s. cl.
Byles's (Serjt.) Sophisms of Free Trade Examined, 6th edit. 6s cl.
Convent (The) and the Harem, by Madame Pisani, 3 vols. 31s. 6d.
Cumming's (Dr.) Infant Salvation, 4th edit. fc. 8vo. 2s cl. gilt.
Dale's (R.) Excursion to Isthmus of Tehuantepec, plates, 5s. 6d. cl.
D'Aubigné's History of the Reformation, new edit. 4 vols. 6s. swd.
Daughter Deborah, by Author of 'The Miser's Secret,' 31s. 6d.
Dick's Philosophy of Religion, new edit. 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd., 2s. cl.
Downing's (C. T., M.D.) Neuralgia, its various Forms, &c 10s. 6d.
Encyclopædia Metropolitana, Vol. 19, 'Arnold's (Dr.) History of the Roman Republic,' engravings, cr. 8vo. 5s. 6d. cl.
Ewart's (W.) Anchurus, and other Poems, 12mo. 5s. cl.
Exile (The) of the Waters, and other Poems, by M. D. H., 5s. 6d.
Fair Carew (The); or, Husbands and Wives, 3 vols. 31s 6d. cl.
Falkenburg, by Author of 'Mildred Vernon,' &c. 3 vols. 31s. 6d. cl.
Gaussen's (L., D.D.) Theopneustia, fc. 8vo. 2s 6d. cl.
Geldart's (Mrs. T.) Stories of Scotland, with map, fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Gover's General and Bible Atlas, 4to. 2s 6d. cl.
Hill's (H. E.) England and Australia, a Poem, cr. 8vo 6s. cl.
Household Hints to Young Housewives, by Martha Careful, 1s
Jameson's Principles of Solution of Senate House Riders, 7s. 6d. cl.
Jameson's (Mrs.) First, or Mother's, Dictionary, 8th edit. 1s. 6d. cl.
Jerrold's (D.) Writings, Vol. 2, 'Men of Character,' 12mo. 4s. cl.
Karslake's Aids to the Study of Logic, Book 2, 8vo. 5s. 6d. cl.
Kingsley's (C., Jun.) Yeast, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Kingston's (W. H. G.) Mark Seaworth, with Illustrations, 6s. cl.
Kirke's Handbook of Physiology, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 12s. 6d. cl.
Knibb's (W.) Memoir, by Hinton, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Kossuth in England, 8vo. 1s. swd.
Kossuth, his Life, Times, and Speeches in England, post 8vo. 6d.
Library of Health, Vol. 2, 'Johnson's Theory and Principles of Hydropathy,' fc. 8vo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Library of Illustrated Standard Scientific Works, Vol. 6, 'Quekett on the Microscope,' 2nd edit. 8vo. 28s. cl.
Little Mary's Lesson Book, with Illustrations, sq. 2s. 6d. cl.
Litton's (E. A., M.A.) The Church of Christ in its Idea, &c. 8vo. 16s.
Lives of Certain Fathers of the Church, ed. by Bennett, Vol. 2, 6s.
Lloyd's Greek Testament, new edit. 18mo. 3s. cl.
Lund's (T.) Short and Easy Course of Algebra, 2nd edit. 2s. 6d. cl.
Macdonnell's (Rev. G.) Devotions and Sermons for Mariners, 5s. cl.
M'Ewen's Grace and Truth, 3rd edit. fc. 8vo. 2s. cl.
Medico-Chirurgical Transactions, Vol. 34, 8vo. 18s. cl.
Michelet's Martyrs of Russia, translated, 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Mills's Literature and Literary Men of Great Britain, 2 vols. 21s.
Notes and Queries, Vol. 1, new edit. sm. 4to. 3s. 6d. cl.
Old Engagement (The), by Julia Day, post 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Pfeiffer's (Ida) A Lady's Travels round the World, translated by W. Hazlitt, fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Pinnock's Analysis of History of Reformation, 2nd edit. 4s. 6d. cl.
Pinnock's Analysis of New Testament History, 2nd edit. 4s. cl.
Pulszky's Tales and Traditions of Hungary, 3 vols. post 8vo. 13s. cl.
Ramsbotham's (Dr.) Principles, &c. of Obstetric Medicine and Surgery, 3rd edit. 8vo. 22s. cl.
Royal Kalendar, 1852, 12mo. 5s. bd.
Ruff's Guide to the Turf, 1851, Nov. edit. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Scalp Hunters (The), by Capt. Reid, 2nd edit. 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31s. 6d.
Senate House Questions in Arithmetic, from 1830 to 1851, with Solutions by Harper, 8vo. 6s. bds.
Sickness, its Trials and Blessings, 3rd edit. fc. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Smith's (J.) Treatise on Forest Trees, 12mo. 5s. cl.
Southey (T.) On Colonial Sheep and Wools, new edit. 8vo. 4s. cl.
Stories of Julian and his Playfellows, with Illustrations, 2s. 6d. cl.
Sunshine and Showers, Stories for the Children of England, 2s. 6d.
Taylor's (I.) Wesley and Methodism, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.
Watts's Scripture History, new and revised edit. 18mo. 2s. cl.
Wilson's (Rev. P.) Holy Purposes for Morning and Evening, 2s 6d.
Wyatt's (M. Digby) Industrial Arts of 19th Century, Part 4, 7s. 6d.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

ALMOST every post now brings some indication that the question of an international copyright in the results of intellectual labour is moving towards a general, if not in every respect satisfactory, settlement. The European governments, from London to Vienna, from Stockholm to Madrid, are all engaged, or have very recently been engaged, in negotiations on the subject. More than two months ago [*Athen.* p. 1247] we were able to announce, on private information, that the long-talked-of treaty between France and England was in a forward and hopeful state:—the terms and conditions have at length been completed, and now only await the formal sanction of the respective Legislatures of the contracting countries. This is our most important copyright treaty. France, on her own part, has established the law of literary right with Portugal and with Sardinia, with Hanover and with England. Negotiations on her behalf are in progress with Spain and with Prussia. To the former country M. Ernest Baroche—son of the late minister of foreign affairs, to whom we are indebted for the immediate completion of the English treaty—has been sent on a special mission having this object in view,—and according to the President's message with good chances of success. The cabinet of Berlin, though it was one of the first, by its convention with London, to acknowledge the justice of the one great principle that underlies every effort to obtain State recognition of the rights of foreign authorship, yet holds out against the pressure of French diplomacy. The statesmen of Prussia feel, or fancy, themselves awkwardly situated with respect to the literature of France. To a certain extent they have the same obstacles to overcome as Americans have with regard to the writers of England. From the time of Voltaire and Sans Souci, French has been the polite language of Prussia. Berlin affects to be a second Paris,—its idlers imitate the manners of the Boulevard des Italiens,—and its thinking population read French literature. Any measure, therefore, having a tendency to raise the price of French books—as a copyright law, stopping the importation into Prussia of the Brussels and Leipsic reprints, must of necessity have—would no doubt prove more or less unpopular in that country. Still, there is hope—the justice of the case considered—that a satisfactory understanding may be arrived at by the two governments. The examples of Hanover and of England will no doubt smooth the way of the French negotiators in Berlin.

The new convention between France and England has three well-defined positive and negative features:—1. Like the treaty with Prussia, already known to our readers, it is in its general scope and provisions a good law for the future protection of literary property in the two countries:—2. Contrary to the proposal made by the French Commission and the *Cercle de la Librairie*, it is not retro-active:—3. Unlike the French treaties with Portugal and Sar-

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dinia, it is confined exclusively to works of literature, music and the fine arts,—leaving designs, patterns and manufacturing art to be dealt with in a separate law. The treaty consists of fifteen articles:—the most material of which we will reproduce for the information of our readers.

The first article recites that from the date when the new Act shall come into operation,—that is to say, from a date to be fixed on by the high contracting parties after they shall have received the approval of their respective Legislatures,—the authors of works of literature or of art in which the laws of one of the two countries guarantee, or shall hereafter guarantee, the right of property to the author, shall enjoy the same right in the territories of the other for the space of time and within the limits attributed to the original works of native authors therein. The words "works of literature and art" are explained as in this case comprehending "the publication of books, dramatic works, musical compositions, designs, paintings, sculptures, engravings, lithographs and all other productions whatsoever of literature and of fine art." In case of piracy or reproduction the author—or his agent—has the right of appeal to the tribunals of the country in which the wrong may have been committed; and the law extends to him the same guarantees as to the author of works originally published in that country.—The second article records the same protection to translations:—the fourth to dramatic pieces and musical compositions. Articles third and fifth state the forms under which authors may reserve or convey to others the right of translation in their works.

In order to render this reservation of right valid, a copy of the original work must be registered and deposited in one country within three months of its publication in the other,—the reservation of right of translation must be announced on the title-page of the book,—the authorized translation must appear, at least in part, within a year reckoning from the date of registration and entirely in less than three years. For works published in numbers, it is sufficient for the writer to announce on his first number that he reserves his right. It will not, however, be considered contrary to law to extract and translate articles out of journals and periodicals published in either country, providing the source from which they are taken be properly indicated—unless the author or authors of such extracts have declared beforehand that they absolutely interdict all reproduction of their writings,—as is the case with the *Revue des Deux Mondes*.—By the fourth article, dramatic authors obtain similar rights in regard to the translation of their works; but to make this reservation legal, the author is bound to produce the translation of his work within three months of the date of its registry. This is one of the most ticklish points in the convention:—the Paris theatre standing in much the same sort of relation to the London playwright as the English author does to the reading public of America—or the French author to the Berliners. A clause is, however, inserted explaining that the protection accorded by this law has not for its object to prevent "imitations" made "in good faith," or the appropriation of dramatic ideas to the respective stages of France and of England,—but simply to prevent direct piracy. In case of reclamation, it is provided that the question, whether the reproduction of a dramatic work at the theatres comes properly under the denomination of imitation or piracy, shall be decided by the legal tribunals of the country in which the offence is charged to be committed:—a point that will, we suspect, often present phases of extreme difficulty to the pundits of the Bench. The next two articles, 6 and 7, interdict the importation and sale of pirated editions,—pronounce their seizure,—and apply to individuals transgressing the convention the penalties assigned by the laws of the respective countries. At present, the legislation of this country is not considered sufficiently repressive to prevent abuses,—and the Government has pledged itself to introduce a more stringent law for the protection of intellectual property in the next session of parliament. The manner and places of registration are described in article 8. If the book be published in France, it must be entered at Stationers' Hall, to secure copyright in England,—if in England, at the Office of the Library of the Minister of the Interior, in Paris, to acquire French rights.—A copy—if a book—of the best edition, if a print, of the finest proof,—must be deposited in the British Museum or in the Bibliothèque Nationale, respectively. The certificate of registration is to be held as proof of the possessor's right to reproduce:—unless a better right can be legally established. The cost of registration is to be 1 f. 25 c. in France,—1*s*. in England; and the additional expense of the certificate is not to exceed 25 f. in Paris, and 5*s*. in London.—These provisions contain the substance of the new treaty. With the exception of article 10,—which provides for a considerable reduction of the duty heretofore charged on French books, &c. legally imported into this country,—the remaining articles are formal and technical. The convention is to continue in force for ten years.

The great defect of this treaty is that which we formerly anticipated and have already in the present article alluded to,—it affords no compensation for wrongs actually done. Books now in the hands of pirates are to remain in their hands forever. A principle of right is established—to be waived in favour of wrong-doers who have been fortunate enough to anticipate the period of moral reform. A vested interest in a patent wrong is carefully saved by the very act that denounces the wrong. It is fair to repeat that this is not the French logic. The French Government, we are informed, stood out for the retro-active clause, and the publishers of Paris took a highly honourable and practical view of the case. But the diplomacy of England resisted,—and prevailed. Our Government seems to have thought that pirates have their rights not only over all that they have hitherto got into their possession, but over everything of the same kind not yet appropriated. This is an arrangement of which we fail to see the justness or the policy:—what we do see very distinctly is, its danger as a precedent for the United States.

From time to time evidence turns up to show that the copyright question is making rapid progress in America. A fortnight ago our Correspondent "S. L., jun.," fresh from the United States, bore "testimony to the fact that both authors and publishers across the Atlantic are increasingly anxious to secure some adequate international arrangement by which the literary interests of both countries may be secured." A fact which has come to our knowledge since we printed our Correspondent's letter bears out, so far as it goes, his assertion as to the high and honourable feeling on the subject of copyright which is beginning to actuate the publishers of America. A publisher now in Europe offers to pay for the copyrights which he seeks on the same terms as those on which his firm would treat with American authors of reputation for similar volumes. This is well worth recording as evidence of the progress which the sentiment is making out of doors. If all American publishers would adopt the plan—each for himself—of arranging with the English author for the right of publication, and would undertake to respect each other's copyrights so obtained, the practical issues of the present discussion would be to a great extent achieved without the interference of Government, and the aid of Government would finally be obtained to coerce the less high-minded.

Even Belgium, so long the Algiers of intellectual property, is joining by some of her organs in the better movement. On this subject we have received the following from a Correspondent.—"It had been rumoured that some arrangement would be made towards the close of this year between the Belgian and the French Governments respecting the laws of copyright between the two nations, and the result was looked for with great anxiety by all those concerned with French literature. It does not appear, however, that anything has yet been done in this matter, in which we take all the interest of fellow sufferers. Belgium is, in fact, to her neighbour France what America is to us. In the case of Belgium, however, dishonesty has carried its punishment with it more obviously than with our Transatlantic pirates. Its results have been more hurtful to the defrauding than to the defrauded party;—for any attempt to establish a national literature in Belgium is hopeless so long as Belgian writers are subjected to the overpowering competition of French pirated works. By the present system, the French author is deprived, it is true, of a portion of the legitimate fruits of his labour;—but the Belgian writer is perhaps still more to be pitied, for he is deprived of his public altogether. As regards the stage, a Belgian dramatist will be, of course, an impossible being so long as French plays—having received the sanction of success in Paris—can be represented in Brussels free from any charge for authorship. A curious scene took place a short time since which ludicrously exemplifies this state of things. A French dramatist, having vainly attempted to get a seat in a Belgian theatre where one of his plays was attracting crowds, requested to speak to the manager, to whom he mentioned his name; never doubting that the fact of his being the author of the piece about to be acted would immediately secure his admission to the house. 'Very likely,' was the curiously cynical reply, 'but we know nothing of authors here.' The intellectual inferiority and dependence engendered by this system has become apparent, it would seem, to the Belgians themselves; for petitions are addressed to the Legislature at each recurring session requesting that a stop may be put to the illicit trade in books. If we may judge, too, by the statistics furnished by the *Annuaire des Deux Mondes*, which we have reason to believe correct, the piratical trade is not as flourishing as it formerly was. This is attributable to the reduction which has taken place of late years in the prices of the trade in Paris, rather than to the inferiority and incorrectness of the Belgian reprints, great as they may be. The great Belgian house of Meline & Cans, which aims at obtaining a monopoly of the *contrefaçon* trade, and strangely enough can boast of having at its head one of the representatives of Brussels (M. Cans), has laid before its shareholders a balance sheet for 1850, which is anything but satisfactory. This is good news for honest men all over the world."

DRYDEN AND 'THE DUKE OF GUISE.'

It would be singular if it should turn out that a production in verse was written and printed by Dryden, with his name, in the zenith of his popularity, and that not only it has never been reprinted, but that it has escaped the notice of all his numerous and industrious biographers. Yet such, I apprehend, is the fact; and it is the more remarkable, because the piece to which I allude, though of no great length, relates to one of the most notorious performances of our stage. I allude to 'The Duke of Guise,' by Dryden and Lee, which occasioned such a convulsion among the Whigs and Tories of the reign of Charles the Second, and which was brought out at the Theatre Royal on the 4th of December, 1682. The particular circumstances attending this representation on its first and other nights may be said to be matter of history, intimately connected as they are with the Dukes of York and Monmouth, and with the Bill of Exclusion.

The share that each poet had in the play is well understood; and it is also known that Dryden furnished the Prologue and Epilogue, as they are given at the opening and conclusion. Both, without material variation, were first printed (as was not unusual at the time) on a separate sheet of foolscap, in order that they might be sold at the playhouse doors, when 'The Duke of Guise' was originally produced. They occupy nearly the first three pages of this sheet; but the fourth page and a small part of the third are filled with a second Epilogue by Dryden, which, I take it, has never been reprinted and which, as far as my research extends, has never been mentioned. On this point I may be in error, and if I am so, some of your correspondents will be good enough to correct me; but I have looked through Sir Walter Scott's edition, Malone's 'Life of Dryden,' and the various biographies and re-impressions of Dryden's poems that I could here lay my hands on, and I have not been able to discover anything about it.

The title of this second Epilogue is of some in-

portance; since it refers to the delay that had taken place in the representation of 'The Duke of Guise' owing to its avowed political character,—and states that it had been written by Dryden, and was intended to have been spoken, when the production of the play was contemplated six months before it was actually brought out. It runs thus:—"Another Epilogue, intended to have been spoken to the play before it was forbidden last summer. Written by Mr. Dryden." Common decency prevents my quoting the whole of it; but it commences as follows, with an allusion to the recently effected junction of the two theatres, and to the conduct of the City regarding the Sheriffs.

"Two houses join'd? two poets to a play?
You noisy Whigs will sure be pleas'd to-day,
It looks so like two Shrieves the City way.
But since our discords and divisions cease,
You, Bilbo gallants, learn to keep the peace.
Make here no tilts: let our poor stage alone;
Or if a decent murder must be done,
Pray take a civil turn to Marybone:"

—referring, of course, to the duels then frequent in that outskirt of the metropolis. The whole consists of forty-two lines; but nearly all the rest, though full of wit, is so disfigured by dirt that it is difficult to make an inoffensive quotation. I may, however, be permitted to extract six other lines from near the end; which contain, as will be at once seen, an important political allusion to Shaftesbury. Dryden is adverting to the many libels upon ladies of the Court.—

"'Tis true, some shot at first the Ladies hit,
Which able marksmen made and men of wit;
But now the fools give fire whose bounce is louder,
And yet, like mere Train-bands, they shoot but powder.
Libels, like plots, sweep all in their first fury,
Then dwindle like an *Ignoramus* Jury."

The Prologue and Epilogue which were spoken on the 4th of December, 1682, were delivered by Smith and Mrs. Crosse—as appears by the printed copy in my hands; but we are not told to whom the Epilogue which was intended to have been spoken if the play had not been forbidden in the summer was to have been intrusted,—though no doubt, judging from its grossness, to an actress. After all, the objectionable lines in this suppressed Epilogue are not more offensive than others in Epilogues which were not suppressed; and we may be pretty sure that this was not the reason why it was not reprinted. I shall be much obliged by any information on the subject. My foolscap sheet of the Prologue, Epilogue, and intended Epilogue may possibly be as great a curiosity as Malone thought the half sheet of Dryden's address to the Duchess of York in the late Mr. Bindley's collection. He pronounced it *unique*; but I have at this moment a second copy before me,—and if I am not much mistaken, the Duke of Devonshire has a third.

J. PAYNE COLLIER.

Maidenhead, Nov. 12.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

It is with great pleasure we can announce to our readers that Lord John Russell has come to the relief of Lady Franklin:—having granted 500*l*. to Mr. Pim to defray the expenses of his journey to the shores of Siberia. This liberality on the part of the Minister discharges the wife of the gallant adventurer from the necessity of advancing the sum which she had engaged to disburse, in addition to the heavy sacrifices of her means which she had already made;—and we hope that should Mr. Pim be favourably received by the Russian Government—to whom he has strong letters of recommendation from Lord Palmerston and other influential persons—further funds from the same channel, as well as from others, will not be wanting to enable him to carry out effectively the plan of search which he proposes. We must report, by way of contrast, that the Admiralty—in whose department the equipment of Lieut. Pim properly rests—has declined to afford him any support whatever. This is the more to be regretted, because it is evident that Lieut. Pim would be more likely to carry out his views to a successful issue if he appeared before the Russian authorities as the accredited envoy of the British Admiralty,—in whose service he bears a commission.

The refusal of their Lordships to grant Lieut. Pim some pecuniary assistance might naturally lead the public to conclude that they do not approve of his proposed expedition. This, as we have already pointed out, cannot be the case,—since the Board have given to that officer unlimited leave of absence for the purposes of his adventure. We have been given to understand, too, that Lord John Russell declared, when the subject was mentioned to him, that he should not feel himself authorized to make any grant to Lieut. Pim for special service unless such service were approved by the Admiralty. So much might of course have been inferred at any rate:—and the subsidy placed at Lieut. Pim's disposal by the first Minister of the Crown, carries with it, of course, by implication, the sanction of the Admiralty.—Lieut. Pim, we may add, is to be accompanied by a special messenger from the Foreign office,—with whom he will travel to St. Petersburgh:—and it is understood that Lord Palmerston will defray all his expenses to that capital.

Furnished with the funds mentioned and his official letters,—Mr. Pim started on Thursday last. His further proceedings will of course depend on the support and encouragement which he may receive at the hands of the Imperial authorities.

Geographical discovery has, as our readers know, been always a subject of interest and patronage to the Russian Emperor:—and in the present case, in which the search for our missing Expedition is within and contiguous to the Imperial dominions, we feel no doubt that Mr. Pim will meet with encouragement and support. We will not anticipate what may be the feelings of Englishmen should that gallant and daring young officer finally succeed in finding our long lost countrymen by means of Russian funds. We are growing accustomed to committing the vindication of our naval heroes to the Russian Czar. After taking the Emperor's subscription to the completion of our unmanageable monument to the memory of the greatest sea captain that the world has seen, we apprehend the Admiralty will not feel embarrassed by any position which their refusal to patronize their present officer may entail on them.

We are glad now to learn that Lieut. Pim meditates a more comprehensive plan of search than the examination only of the Siberian coast line. Not that the exploration of that coast is a slight task:—it is of vast extent; but we do not ourselves think that Sir John Franklin or his companions are to be found on that coast. Had they gained it, the numerous parties of Russian hunters who make periodical and frequent excursions along the shores and to the islands of New Siberia for fur and mammoth bones, would, we think, assuredly have brought us tidings of them.—But it is quite possible that they may be met with on the lands stated by Admiral von Wrangel to have been frequently seen from Cape Jakan,—or on those descried by Captain Kellett, of the Herald, to the north-east of Behring's Straits. These are in all probability connected with each other. It is to the exploration of these unvisited lands that Mr. Pim's energy should be directed; and in the event of their yielding no trace of the object of his search, it would then be highly desirable to push to the north. To do this, however, there would in all probability be required the aid of vessels.

By this plan we should—admitting the feasible hypothesis of a polar ocean—approach the northern extremity of Victoria Channel, up which there is every reason, as we have again and again said, to believe that Sir John Franklin sailed; and if that channel be examined from the south—as we have every hope it will next summer,—we shall then take the two best possible routes for falling in with him, or with such traces of his expedition as may at least lead to a final solution of the dark mystery hanging over his fate.

The hypothesis of the existence of a polar ocean to the north of the islands of New Siberia, and of the lands seen by Admiral Von Wrangel and Capt. Kellett, is strongly supported by the former eminent Russian navigator. In a letter to Col. Sabine, he says:—"The opinion expressed by you relatively to the existence of open navigable water to the north corresponds perfectly to the impressions which were excited in me by the constantly repeated obstacles to a further advance to the northward over the ice. If it were possible to embark in a suitably fitted vessel from New Siberia, a most interesting result might probably be expected." In the Preface to the 'Narrative of M. Von Wrangel's Expedition' to the Polar Sea,' edited by Col. Sabine, the latter officer says:—"The equipment of the Expeditions of Von Wrangel and Von Anjou for the prosecution of their researches was formed on the presumption of the continuance to the north (in the winter and spring at least) of the natural bridge of ice by which the islands are accessible from the continent; but every attempt which they made to proceed to the north, repeated as these were during three years, and from many different points of a line extending for several hundred miles in an east and west direction, terminated alike in conducting them to an open and navigable sea. From whatever point of the coast their departure was taken, the result was invariably the same; after an ice-journey of more or less continuance, they arrived where further progress in sledges was impossible,—when, to use the words of M. Von Wrangel, 'we beheld the wide immeasurable ocean spread before our gaze, a fearful and magnificent but to us a melancholy spectacle.' I need scarcely say, that the spectacle which to them appeared 'melancholy,' because it compelled them to renounce the object for which they strove so admirably through years of privation and toil, would wear an aspect of a totally opposite character to those whose success should depend on the facilities of navigation."

Thus it is evident that for carrying out effectually a comprehensive and exhaustive plan of search for the lost Expedition to the north of the Siberian continent, two modes of locomotion are absolutely necessary:—the one, by either walking or sledging over the ice,—the other by boats or ships. We can scarcely venture to hope that such efficient means will be placed at the disposal of Mr. Pim by the Russian Government. Feebly supported as he is by his own great nation,—the Imperial authorities may think that by forwarding him to their Siberian maritime outposts, and enabling him to pass from one to the other along the coast, they will do all that is necessary to meet the wishes of the British Government. We trust, however, that among their scientific men some will be found ready and willing to advance Lieut. Pim's views,—and who will not allow him to depart alone from St. Petersburgh on his adventure.

Though this adventure has for its main object the discovery of our lost mariners,—it is yet clear that a great amount of scientific knowledge would be gained by a judiciously organized Expedition starting from the mouth of the Kolyma and bearing to the north and east. This fact strengthens our hope that the Russian Government will patronize Mr. Pim with that munificence which distinguishes all their scientific undertakings.

The Arctic Committee which has been sitting for several weeks is expected to conclude its labours in a few days; but it is doubtful whether the result will be made public before the assembling of Parliament,—when the voluminous evidence will probably be printed in continuation of former Arctic Papers.

To complete our notice of the prospects for the coming season, we may mention, that at a dinner given by the British Resident at New York to Mr. Grinnell and the officers of the American Arctic Expedition, it was stated, that it was that gentleman's intention to renew his efforts to search for the British Arctic Expedition,—and that he would apply to Government for further assistance in the spring.

Letters have been received from the Prince Albert, stating that several dogs had been purchased at Upernavick to draw the sledges which it is proposed to use over the ice. Attempts had been made to despatch the carrier pigeons which the Prince Albert took out;—but by no means could the birds be induced to leave their floating habitation.

We observe that Admiral Taylor has addressed a letter to the Royal Commissioners of the Great

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Exhibition proposing that the Crystal Palace shall be thrown open as a promenade to the public on payment of a small fee until a sufficient sum of money be collected to equip these Expeditions to search for the Erebus and Terror to the north of Cornwallis Land. We do no more than mention this project, among the thousand and one projects for the appropriation of the Palace of Glass. We hold it to be the duty of the Government itself to complete the search for Franklin and his companions in the direction proposed in the ensuing summer:—and no doubt, we believe, remains that this duty on their part will be performed.

Since the above was written, we are informed, in a quarter on which we can rely, that "despatches have just arrived from St. Petersburgh, from which, on high authority, it may be inferred that the Imperial Government will grant every assistance in their power towards carrying out the objects of Lieut. Pim's hazardous scheme."

THE BARONESS VON BECK.

THE letter from Mr. Bentley which we published last week on the subject of M. Pulszky's share in the early history of the Baroness von Beck in this country, has led to some further correspondence. M. Pulszky has addressed the papers to say that he did not *write* the note enclosed in Mr. Bentley's communication:—a denial entirely without significance, as the publisher had himself said the same thing. The real question at issue—so far as M. Pulszky is concerned in these mysterious proceedings is this; —Did the "mutual friend" who wrote the favourable opinion of the MS. fairly represent what M. Pulszky had said to him on the subject? All other reserves and denials—in fact, they take the character of evasions—go for nothing if this should prove to be the case.—What judgment, then, can be formed by the reader on this point from the evidence which, be it remembered, the parties themselves have thought it convenient to lay before the tribunal of English opinion?

In the first place, M. Pulszky does not deny his substantial authorship of the character of the Baroness furnished to her English publisher:—He says only:—"I never wrote that or any other communication on the subject to Mr. Bentley." He does not say that he was not the "mutual friend's" authority for the statement, that "the lady had peculiar opportunities of noting events of a romantic character,"—or for the still more important declaration, "The lady, I know, was personally acquainted with Kossuth,—and I have every reason to think highly of her." Here is, in fact, no one broad comprehensive denial:—M. Pulszky stickles only for words. His denial extends only to the mechanical act of *writing* the letter. Can the public, after what has already passed in this matter, be expected to believe that M. Pulszky could have disclaimed both the letter and its opinions—yet did not choose to do so? Like Mr. Toulmin Smith, who could tell if he pleased who wrote the Baroness von Beck's book—but will not,—are we to take as M. Pulszky's meaning that he could deny all which Mr. Bentley's letter charges—but does not think it worth his while? If he could, and did, make such denial,—why, then, the responsibility under which he at present sits so uncomfortably would not be discharged, but transferred to this "mutual friend."

The "mutual friend," Mr. John E. Taylor, has also written to the papers and to Mr. Bentley. Recalling to the latter the circumstances under which he recommended the Baroness's MS. he says:—"You placed in my hands a few pages of the work in German, with a request that I would give you an opinion upon it. Feeling myself incompetent to do this satisfactorily, I requested M. Pulszky to read over the pages you had sent me, and to favour me with his general impression of their contents, that I might communicate this to you. Of the authoress of the work I never had *the slightest knowledge.*" The last sentence is particularly important as showing how far Mr. Taylor, at the time he wrote the letter published in our columns last week, was speaking vicariously:—"The lady," he then said, *I know,* "was personally acquainted with Kossuth,—and I have every reason to think highly of her." The same man, speaking avowedly in his own person, can hardly have written these two paragraphs. What, then, is the explanation? Is it not clearly so far as appears in these documents,—for our readers are probably of our own opinion, that there is much in this dark and terrible drama yet to be unfolded,—that in the first note, Mr. Taylor felt himself authorized to write as the "alter ego" of M. Pulszky, and to speak of derived information as if it were personal knowledge? If so, Mr. Taylor's explanations and M. Pulszky's non-denial lead to the same conclusion,—that Mr. Bentley published the 'Memoirs' of the Baroness in reliance on an opinion traceable to M. Pulszky.

Some of our readers may begin to be of opinion that this case is dragging itself out to an unreasonable length:—but to create such an impression seems precisely the object of those who are seriously compromised by it as it at present stands. Their tactics seem to be directed to wearying out inquiry;—but in this we cannot feel satisfied to let them succeed.

As our readers see, this episodical discussion in no way affects the character and tragic end of the late Baroness von Beck. The shocking series of intrigues and incidents which brought her to a pauper's grave in Birmingham remain as mysterious as ever. The correspondence on the point raised by Mr. Bentley's letter only proves how deep and comprehensive is the darkness which surrounds the business on every side. Nowhere is the veil yet drawn. Every attempt made by the principals in the affair to explain themselves—whether the explanations relate to essential facts or to more details—involves them still more in reserves, perplexities, and contradictions.—The point immediately before us affects only, in a side direction, M. Pulszky's place in the matter:—and such a succession of equivocations have been spun round the whole sad case, to impede and entangle those who would approach it for careful examination, that we at least shall not be content until public opinion, or some other influence, shall have compelled both M. Pulszky and Mr. Toulmin Smith to give a clearer account of their dealings and motives in this painful and mysterious affair than they have yet pretented to offer.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

COMPLAINTS are continually addressed to us on the subject of the Catalogues of the British Museum. We are well aware that it is not easy to make a perfect index, either to a single work or to a library;—and we listen with the patience at our command to the excuses and justification of such of its imperfections as are continually brought to light. But we cannot forget that our great national collection costs a large annual sum of money—that it levies a tax on all intellectual labourers in the form of a copy of each edition of their works—that it is the storehouse of information for men who make our current literature—and that its use is entirely dependent on the completeness and accuracy of its catalogue. We would ask even the makers of the present indexes whether such cases as the following should be allowed to pass under any amount of excuse. One correspondent writes to us:—"I give you an instance of the imperfections of the Museum Catalogue which came under my notice to-day. I had occasion to refer to a recent volume of the *Numismatic Journal* —and, of course, after ascertaining that the set was not in the reading-room, I turned to "Numismatics" in the Catalogue. There I found entered certain works on that science,—but not the one I sought. I tried "Journal" without success. "Periodical Publications" was next turned to:—and under that head certain Minutes and Transactions were found entered,—but not the Journal. Recollecting that Mr. Akerman is the editor of the work, I sought under his name—in vain. There was there, it is true, a cross-reference, but the word referred to was not to be found in the Catalogue! Other words and names were tried with equal want of result. At length "Academy" occurred as a possible title:—there I got nearer to the scent, finding the first two volumes. But here the success of the chase ended. The later volumes could not be found:—though I had the courteous assistance of more than one of the Museum officers in part of my search!"—Another correspondent supplies us with an instance in the department of maps.—"Having had occasion," he writes, "to consult the Admiralty charts of the River Medway whilst reading at the Museum on a recent occasion, I could find nothing under the head Medway. But with the assistance of one of the attendants it was discovered that such charts existed under the name of Bullock!" This was not the worst. Our correspondent adds:—"Their rehearsal here referred for particulars to the word Medway,—the omission of which from the Catalogue renders the charts in question completely sealed documents."—While on the subject of maps and charts, we may take the opportunity of drawing the attention of our catalogue-makers to the remarks of another correspondent, who complains that ancient maps and plans are lumped together in the present indexes in such a way as completely to conceal the existence of some of the most interesting and valuable. In one collection he instances a number of plans and drawings of Plymouth, Dover, and other towns as they existed in the seventeenth century—that is, during the civil war; drawings of the utmost interest to the historian and biographer of the Revolution. These drawings, he informs us, are not to be found under the separate heads Plymouth, Portsmouth, Bristol, &c.,—as they assuredly should be; nor does the catalogue give any list of them. They are mounted separately and kept in a box; but without untying each parcel no one can tell what towns are or are not there illustrated.—Surely the daily impediments to the most ordinary pursuit of knowledge of which these cases present common examples are beyond the licence of even official carelessness and neglect.

Among the events of the week which come within our cognizance is the decease of the Rev. J. Hobart Caunter. Eighteen years ago this gentleman's appearances in the world of ephemeral literature were frequent—and fairly successful.—He was the author of 'The Island Bride,' a poem of some length, and editor of 'The Oriental Annual.' Besides these, Mr. Caunter produced translations, and one or two graver works on historical and Biblical subjects. At the period referred to, Mr. Caunter was an occasional contributor to the *Athenæum*.

Mr. Bohn has at length followed the example of Mr. Routledge; and, after a great waste of money in legal expenses, has surrendered the Washington Irving copyright battle to Mr. Bentley,—and, if we are not misinformed, to Mr. Murray. The terms of the surrender have not transpired.

The submarine telegraph has been open a week, —and a revolution is already foreshadowed in the foreign intelligence department of the journals devoted to the news of the hour. The wires are still unconnected at Dover. The Paris Bourse and the halls of the Assembly have no local communication with the French lines. Nevertheless, a message from Charing Cross to either of those places of general resort can now be sent forward and the answer returned in fifty or sixty minutes. In a few days, the wires will be laid down from the Dover Offices to the South-Eastern Railway Station,—and the transmission of news between Paris and London will then become the work of an instant. For the general reader, perhaps the most notable result of this change of agents is, the strange work which it makes with the ordinary Paris correspondence. All news except that borne on the lightning's wings is stale. Yesterday, the telegraph recorded in a few bright and pregnant lines all that was worth sending by so costly an agent—that is, all that the public was most anxious to know. To-day, there comes a weak dilution of the same intelligence, given in many words and mixed up with speculations as to the probable twists and turns of fortune in the next few hours —hours already passed away—leaving their chief facts recorded by the same superseding chronicler.

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Editorial speculation is equally distanced and put to shame. Though the eye cannot see nor the ear hear from one to the other—London and Paris are like one city as regards time and space. Mind can speak to mind simultaneously in spite of hills and waves. Already it is seen that the correspondence must be considerably altered—must be reduced to its essential size and shape, and transmitted by the electric wires.—A curious incident of the working of the submarine wires has been the firing of cannon at Dover and Calais from the opposite shores. Every one has heard of the famous gun that could carry a shot from Shakspeare's Cliff to the market-place in Calais—a proud memorial of skill in casting and a vaunted means of disturbing at will the peasants and gardeners of Artois. But the electric wire reduces this boaster to the smallest of wonders. The white cliffs are now daily echoing volleys fired from the other side; and it may almost be accepted as an omen of the new ideas and feelings which the telegraph is to create and foster between these two great countries, that the first public demonstration of its existence and its marvellous power made by the submarine wire was the discharge of a magnanimous parting salute to the Duke of Wellington,—type of an order of men for whose services the world is likely to have less need than of old. More prolific than Cressy or Waterloo will be that submerged wire,—more honourable to the genius of England than the march on Paris is the electric line which weds the two capitals of European civilization.

The electric light, so long the amusement of dreamers and speculators, is at length to be brought into practical operation. The *Mining Journal* announces that the directors of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway intend almost immediately to light the tunnels on their line by this new method.

We may mention, that an application is to be made in the next session of Parliament for powers to enable the Woods and Forests to convert Kennington Common, and the two pieces of vacant land on the east and west of it, into an ornamental park, to be open to the public.

We find it announced in the daily papers that the Earl of Besborough has made a grant of a small plot of land to each of the National Schools built on his estate, with a view to forward the better industrial training of the scholars:—an eminently wise and fruitful policy. The same nobleman has just laid the foundation of a new agricultural school at Whitechurch, to which he has made a present of two and a half acres of land. We regard these schools of industry as among the best agents yet employed for the social and lasting elevation of the people,—and are consequently pleased to see them taking root and gathering strength in so many of our agricultural counties.

We have alluded once or twice lately to the great metropolitan mystery which is wrapped up in what may be called the "Omnibus Question." There is another mystery of the same kind which stands in need of being frequently discussed,—and it relates to what, by an abbreviation which has finally taken its place in our language as a substantive word, we must for the future call "Cabs." We do not allude to the topographical and legal questions as regards fares; but to the necessity which is becoming so obvious, that, with the rapid increase in the number of these vehicles we should no longer permit them to occupy the middle of our most frequented streets and blockade our most select footpaths. We imagine that in the whole economy of London there is no part of our out-door arrangements so unsatisfactory and barbarous as those which relate to the management of cabs and cabmen. We are now on the threshold of winter; and we would appeal to any of our readers who have had much experience of the inclemencies of that season in London—its days and nights of piercing cold, freezing rain and hard frost—whether there are many objects to be seen in our streets which merit more compassion than the cabman and the miserable quadruped attached to his vehicle. According to the present system, there is literally no shelter for either the one or the other. They are both expected to bear every vicissitude of climate,—to be always in full vigour,—always ready to start at a moment's notice,—and always in the best possible temper. This expectation is unreasonable,—and, therefore, in nineteen cases out of twenty it is not fulfilled. No person of ordinary feeling can be surprised at the failures. What we have to do—and what we shall do sooner or later—is, to provide at the different cab stations some covered shed, or yard, or standing place beneath which both horses and men will find something like efficient shelter from the severities of English weather. When we do this we shall probably no longer have to complain so bitterly as we now do of the insolence and extortion of cabmen. As cabmen are at present managed, treated and trained, insolence and extortion are almost inevitable. The occupation of a cabman is so irksome and laborious—so full of danger to health and comfort—so essentially demoralizing—that it is adopted only by an order of men who in many respects are the desperadoes of the humbler classes. Police regulations, acts of parliament, fines, imprisonments, and so on, will all fail to effect a radical cure, so long as no means are taken to accomplish a moral reform among the men themselves by rendering their occupation less hazardous and toilsome, and by affording them, in some form or other, a portion of that protection from the weather which we so assiduously extend to the meanest of our domestic animals.

Mr. Alison, the historian, has been re-elected, without a contest, to the office of Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow.

The improvements going on in various parts of Paris, of which we have given our readers information from time to time, have proceeded, generally speaking, without subjecting the antiquary to any of those trials which the necessities of sanitary reform or symmetrical embellishment so often inflict. Among the houses, however, which are now to be immediately demolished in order to allow of the prolongation of the Rue de Rivoli there is one bearing the number 14 in the Rue des Fossés-St.-Germain-l'Auxerrois, which, though of no importance in an artistical point of view, is interesting from its historical associations.—It was from a window of that house that on St. Bartholomew's night, 1572, the body of Admiral Coligni was thrown into the court-yard beneath by his murderers.—Other recollections of a scarcely less gloomy nature are associated with it. About a century later it was the abode of that beautiful Duchesse de Montbazon whose death caused the conversion of the celebrated reformer of the Trappists, the Abbé de Rancé. Rancé, though in orders, had led a life of pleasure until one day when having, it is said, gone to visit after a long absence the Duchess, to whom he was extremely attached, he found the dead body of his mistress in the hands of the surgeons who were proceeding to embalm it. The shock operated so violently that he immediately retired to La Trappe:—where he spent the remainder of his long life in austerity and penance. His excessive zeal introduced those changes and regulations which have rendered the Trappists the strictest of all monastic orders.

An unpretending benefactor of his country, Parmentier, has come in for his share in the monumental rewards which France is just now distributing so liberally to all her "illustrations." The *Société centrale d'Agriculture* has, appropriately enough, undertaken to pay the debt due to the memory of the philanthropical agriculturist who first brought the potato into general use in France. A small pyramid has been erected on the very spot where Parmentier made his first essays of cultivation on some land which Louis the Sixteenth had granted for the experiment. The prejudice against the potato (for some time called Parmentière) was so strong in France, that notwithstanding the strenuous efforts of Parmentier—which earned for him the popular designation of the "inventor of potatoes"—and the active patronage of royalty, it was not till many years after these first attempts that this root became a common article of food in France.

The *Brussels Herald* states that a typographical congress will shortly be assembled in the Belgian capital:—and adds as follows.—"The question of literary piracy, which so deeply affects the interests of several branches of industry in connexion with typography, will furnish an additional incentive to the deliberations of this congress. The initiative of this proposal is due to the delegates of the printers of Namur."

We see it stated in correspondence from Leipsic that the catalogue of books for the fair in that city shows, that in the short space of time between the Easter fair and the 30th of September there were published in Germany no less than 3,860 new works, and that there were on the latter date 1,130 new works in the press. Nearly five thousand new works in one country of Europe in one half year! How impossible it would seem for strangers, having their own life to live—their own literature to read—to keep on the advanced lines of a national mind exhibiting this prodigious literary activity! The amount of intellectual labour dimly represented in the Catalogue appears to have had on the whole a healthy impulse. Of the 3,860 works already published, more than half treat of various matters connected with science and its concerns. That is to say—descending to particulars—106 works treat of Protestant theology; 62 of Catholic theology; 36 of philosophy; 205 of history and biography; 102 of languages; 194 of natural sciences; 168 of military tactics; 108 of medicine; 169 of jurisprudence; 101 of politics; 184 of political economy; 83 of industry and commerce; 87 of agriculture and forest administration; 69 of public instruction; 92 of classical philology; 80 of living languages; 64 of the theory of music and the arts of design; 168 of the fine arts in general; 48 of popular writings; 28 of mixed sciences; and 18 of bibliography. It is satisfactory to see, after their recent comparative neglect, that science and the arts begin to resume their old sway over the German mind.

NOW OPEN.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec. Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN is exhibited immediately preceding the Diorama of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Docks, Cintra, the Tagus, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mausoleum, "The Taj Mehal," the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

Geological.—*Nov.* 5.—W. Hopkins, Esq., President, in the chair.—Capt. Collinson, R.E. was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read.—'Notice of the Occurrence of an Earthquake at Santiago and Valparaiso, April 2, 1851.'

'On the Slate Rocks of Devon and Cornwall,' by Prof. Sedgwick.—The author, referring to observations previously made,—particularly in 1836 by Sir R. I. Murchison and himself,—explained that the sedimentary rocks of Cornwall and Devon are arranged as follows:—1. The culmiferous rocks or culm-measures (equivalent to the coal-grits of South Wales), occupying a wide extent of North Devon, form a trough, the parallel sides of which extend from Hartland Point to beyond Bampton, on the north, and from Lesnewth to the south of Exeter, on the south; interrupted, however, on this southern edge by the great granitic mass of Dartmoor. 2. The calcareous slates of Barnstaple and the sandstones of Marwood and Baggy Point underlie the culm-measures on the north, and are represented along the south edge of the culm-rocks by the limestone and fossiliferous slates of Petherwin, and, forming with the latter the "Barnstaple or Petherwin Group," constitute the upper part of the "Devonian system." These appear to be the equivalents of the "carboniferous slates" of the south of Ireland. 3. The "Dartmouth group," or Middle Devonian, appear on the north as the unfossiliferous slates and coarse greywacke of

Morte Bay, and on the south of the culm-trough as the unfossiliferous slates of the Dartmouth district. 4. The oldest or "Plymouth group" of the Devonian series is well marked on the north by the limestones and sandstones of Linton and the north coast; and on the south by the fossiliferous slate rocks of the "Liskeard group," and the limestones and sandstones of the Plymouth district. These rocks, although greatly mineralized and distorted by the extensive granitic bosses of Devon and Cornwall, exhibit in both counties considerable symmetry in their arrangement with respect to each other and to the granitic rocks,—generally dipping from the protruding granite in a symmetrical form, and, when free from the disturbing influence of the latter, exhibiting an approximate parallelism of strike. Then the author states that the "Plymouth group" ranges on the south-east coast of Cornwall; the "Dartmouth group" through the central region; and the "Petherwin group" along the north-west coast of the county. The author next proceeded to describe a series of slaty rocks to the south of the granitic boss north of St. Austell, and occupying Dodman Point and Nare Head. These rocks afford fossils of the Lower Silurian (Cambrian) age, as lately noticed by Sir R. I. Murchison. These strata, having a general southerly dip and a strike N.N.E., S.S.W., appear to overlie the Devonian slates of Veryan. This position, however, the Professor considers to be probably due to the disturbing influence of an axis of elevation parallel with the south coast, which has either inverted these older rocks, or brought them into their actual position by the intervention of an enormous up-cast fault. The author concludes by observing that probably the altered slates near the Lizard and the metamorphic slates at Bolt Head might be regarded as indications of ancient strata formerly existing about the site of these promontories. Deposits of Silurian or Cambrian age appear to have had a limited extent only, as indicated by the local series referred to above, for there are no traces of Upper Silurian rocks on the south-west coast of Cornwall. The three great groups of the Devonian series successively followed, and subsequently formed an elevated tract of land, on which grew the ancient Flora now represented by the fossil plants of the culm-measures that repose on the Devonian rocks. After which came the period when the great granitic axis was elevated, disturbing with its three protruding masses of St. Austell, Bodmin, and Dartmoor the Devonian and culmiferous rocks along the southern edge of the latter. Contemporaneously with this, another axis elevated the corresponding rocks along the northern edge of the culm series. Lastly, we have indications of a third elevatory axis probably coeval with the former two, ranging along the south coast of Devonshire and Cornwall, and previously noticed as being probably connected with the elevation of the Cambrian or older Silurian rocks of Dodman Point and Nare Head.

Asiatic.—*Nov.* 15.—The Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie in the chair.—The Secretary read a paper by W. H. Bradley, Esq., of the Bombay Medical Service, containing an account of the Rock-cut Caves of Aurungabad. The ruins of these Buddhist and Jain cave-temples are found in the hills within half an hour's walk to the north of Aurungabad, and are half concealed by fallen rocks and earth. Much of the sculpture still remains in tolerable preservation; but the wonders of Ellora have caused these caves to be hitherto but little noticed. All such remains, however, ought to be examined and described; for, in order to arrive at any correct opinion on the chronology of the Buddhists it is necessary not only that their inscriptions should be studied, but that all the peculiarities of their sculpture and architecture should be investigated and compared. The hills in which these caves are found are composed of amygdaloid trap; their highest elevation is about 1,700 feet above the plain; and their southern slopes, on which side the caves are situated, are invariably precipitous and barren. The locality is marked by a small Jain cave, which is kept whitewashed by the devotees of the city; the other caves are more or less concealed by bushes and accumulated rubbish; they are eleven in number, scattered over a space of about a mile and a half, and form three distinct groups. With the exception of the small cave first alluded to, they are all *Vihâra*, or monastic caves, accompanied by the usual daghopa. Their general characteristics denote a period when Buddhism was fast declining. The simplicity of the earlier caves is here wanting; Buddha himself, and Buddhist saints, are represented, not in mental abstraction, but—in the company of scantily-robed females; and figures essentially Brahmanical are found not unfrequently associated with Orphic symbols. These facts, together with the florid style of the carving, all denote a late period of Buddhism. One cave alone, containing a gigantic figure of a recumbent Buddha obtaining beatitude, appears to bear marks of antiquity. An arrangement seldom found in Buddhist excavations, but frequent in Brahmanical and Jain caves, is here adopted,—that of isolating the sanctum from the external wall by a passage going round it, containing chapels, and lateral cells for the priests. The walls appear to have been once covered with stucco paintings, which are now so obliterated that their character cannot be determined; but the ornamental carving on the pillars, thrones, &c. is the exact counterpart of that at Ellora and Ajunta. The principal figure is of gigantic proportions, seated on a lion-throne, with the feet resting on a lotus flower. Through the features of all these figures of Buddha there runs a remarkable sameness, which closely corresponds with the description given by Burckhardt of the tribes of Northern Africa, or Ethiopians.—A detailed account of the size, architecture, plan, and sculptures of each cave followed; from which it appears that the sculpture of the first group of four caves is Buddhistical, with the exception of the last, in which there was a figure unmistakeably Jain, bearing the distinguishing characteristics of *Neminâth*, their 22nd Tirthankar. In the second group of caves the general character of the sculpture is also Buddhistical. In one, however, there is a figure of *Lakshmi* seated, with two elephants pouring water over her:—parallel instances of the introduction of the Brahmanical *Lakshmi* into Buddhist temples are to be seen at Ellora. The most remarkable feature in this division is, a series of eight groups of sculpture, representing, on projecting ledges, various figures in the attitude of prayer to the idol. Sculpture similar to this exists at Ellora; while at Ajunta the same subjects are represented in stucco paintings, great portions of which have become indistinct. The third group consists of three caves, all of which have been left in an unfinished state.—The paper was illustrated by plans of the different excavations, and by drawings of the most prominent and interesting objects in the series of caves.

The Rev. E. P. Lewis and J. P. Willoughby, Esq., were elected into the Society.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—'On the late Geographical Discoveries in the Arctic Regions,' by Capt. E. Ommanney, R.N.—'Ascent of Orizava, in Mexico,' by E. Thornton, Esq., of the Foreign Office.—'Proposal for a Museum of Mankind,' by Geo. Catlin, Esq.—The magnificent set of Maps and Charts sent by the Imperial Geographical Institution of Vienna to the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park, and since presented by the Austrian Government to the Royal Geographical Society of London, will be exhibited.
— Royal Academy, 8.—Prof. Green 'On Anatomy.'
— Institute of Actuaries, 7.—'Some Considerations on the Theories of Combinations, Probabilities, and Life Contingencies,' by Peter Hardy, Esq., F.R.S., Actuary to the London Assurance Corporation.
Tues. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.
— Civil Engineers, 8.—'On the application of Machinery to the Manufacture of Rotating Chambered-Breech Fire-arms,' by Col. S. Colt, U.S., America.
Thurs. Antiquaries, 8.
— Royal Society of Literature, 4.
— Numismatic, 7.
Sat. Botanical, 8.—Anniversary.
— Medical, 8.

NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESS.

The following photographic process has been communicated to us, by Mr. C. J. Muller, from Patna in the East Indies. We have submitted it to an experienced photographer; and he informs us that it offers many advantages over the Talbotype or the Catalissotype of Dr. Woods—which it somewhat resembles,—that it is easy in all its manipulatory details, and certain in its results. We give Mr. Muller's own words.

"A solution of hydriodate of iron is made in the proportion of eight or ten grains of iodide of iron to one ounce of water. This solution I prepare in the ordinary way with iodine, iron-turnings and water.—The ordinary paper employed in photography is dressed on one side with a solution of nitrate of lead (15 grains of the salt to an ounce of water). When dry, this paper is iodized either by immersing it completely in the solution of the hydriodate of iron, or by floating the leaded surface on the solution. It is removed after the lapse of a minute or two, and lightly dried with blotting paper. This paper now contains iodide of lead, and protonitrate of iron. While still moist, it is rendered sensitive by a solution of nitrate of silver (100 grains to the ounce) and placed in the camera. After an exposure of the duration generally required for Talbot's paper, it may be removed to a dark room. If the image is not already out, it will be found speedily to appear in great strength and with beautiful sharpness *without any further application*. The yellow tinge of the lights may be removed by a little hyposulphite of soda, though simple washing in water seems to be sufficient to fix the picture. The nitrate of lead may be omitted; and plain paper only, treated with the solution of the hydriodate of iron, and acetic acid may be used with the nitrate of silver, which renders it more sensitive. The lead, however, imparts a peculiar colorific effect. The red tinge brought about by the lead may be changed to a black one by the use of a dilute solution of sulphate of iron:—by which, indeed, the latent image may be very quickly developed. The papers however will not keep after being iodized."

Mr. Muller suggests that as iodide of lead is completely soluble in nitrate of silver, it might furnish a valuable photographic fluid, which could be applied at any moment when required.

No small degree of interest attaches to this process—originating in experiments carried on in Central India. It appears perfectly applicable to the albuminized glass and collodion processes.

Scientific Gossip.—The following is the first list of lectures which have been arranged to be delivered at the weekly meetings of the Society of Arts on the probable results of the Great Exhibition of 1851—at the suggestion, as our readers know, of His Royal Highness Prince Albert.

Nov. 26.—Rev. W. Whewell, D.D.—Inaugural Lecture on the general bearing of the Exhibition on the Progress of Arts and Sciences.

Dec. 3.—Sir H. De la Beche—Mining, Quarrying, and Metallurgical Processes and Products.

Dec. 10.—Prof. Owen—Animal Raw Products.

Dec. 17.—Jacob Bell, Esq.—Chemical and Pharmaceutical Processes and Products.

Jan. 7.—Dr. Lyon Playfair—On the Chemical Principles involved in the Manufactures shown at the Exhibition as a proof of the necessity of an Industrial Education.

Jan. 14.—Prof. Lindley—Substances used as Food.

Jan. 21.—Prof. E. Solly—On the Vegetable Substances used in the Arts and Manufactures, in relation to Commerce generally.

Jan. 28.—Rev. Prof. Willis—Machines and Tools for working in Metal, Wood and other Materials.

Feb. 4.—J. Glaisher, Esq.—Philosophical Instruments and Processes.

Feb. 11.—R. Hensman, Esq.—On Machinery and Civil Engineering generally.

Feb. 18.—Capt. Washington, R.N.—Shipping, particularly Life Boats, in Class 8.

March 3.—Prof. J. Forbes Royle—On the Manufactures of India.

FINE ARTS

THE COTTINGHAM MUSEUM.

The eleven days' sale of the Cottingham Museum terminated on Monday last. The number of lots sold amounted to 2,265, and the whole produce of the sale was 2,009*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* Only one lot realized a price above 100*l.*—and only two a sum above 50*l.* The general prices were exceedingly low:—much, indeed, as we had expected they would be; for the value of the collection consisted in its *entirety*,—split into lots, it sank at least 50 per cent. in value.

Great pains had been taken with the catalogue: Mr. Shaw—so well known by his numerous works

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on mediæval ornament—lending his pen to proclaim its value, and his pencil to portray some of its leading features.

We fully concur with Mr. Shaw in the value which he has set on the Cottingham Museum,—share his regret that Government did not step in and secure it intact for the London School of Design,—and approve of the excellent remarks which he has advanced in the Preface. Objections, we are aware, are entertained to the purchase of entire collections. But, what did Osborne make by the purchase of Lord Oxford's library? What did the Duke of Bridgewater obtain by the purchase of the Orleans Gallery? Osborne obtained the library for less than the bindings had cost Lord Oxford!—and the Duke of Bridgewater by the sale of a portion of the Orleans Gallery was enabled to pay his original purchase-money and retain the Bridgewater Gallery for nothing! We will not say that the sale of duplicates, &c. from the Cottingham Museum would have realized sufficient to clear even half of the sum asked for the collection—but it would have lessened the actual cost of the choicer articles, and thus additionally justified the purchase of the whole. It is now too late, however, to lament the dispersion of the collection:—we here enumerate a few prices.—

No. 1. A Bust of Shakspeare from the Monument at Stratford-upon-Avon. The original mould was made under the late Mr. Cottingham's immediate superintendence, and this is the only cast taken from it, 5*l.*—10. A Pair of Enamelled Fire Dogs formerly belonging to Sir Thomas More (Mr. A. Bernal has a pair of candlesticks of corresponding workmanship), 10*l.* 10*s.*—61. Pannelled Ceiling from Bishop Bonner's Palace at Lambeth, since destroyed, 11*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*—73. Oblong Table of rosewood and lignum-vitæ from Norwich, 18*l.* 18*s.*—194. Model of the Door-way leading to the Chapter House of Rochester Cathedral, 16*l.* 16*s.*—303. Richly Carved Chair of the time of James I., presented to the late Mr. Cottingham by Sir Walter Scott, 6*l.* 15*s.*—Twenty-nine Linen Pannels in Carved Oak from the Palace of Layer Marney, in Essex, 6*l.* 10*s.*—374. Mask in Marble of an African Girl's Head; brought from Pompeii, and supposed to have been the Keystone to Arch of Entrance to the Comic Theatre, 19*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*—401. Supposed Canopy of Chaucer's Tomb, 1*l.* 15*s.*—836. Model of the Tomb, in Westminster Abbey, of William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, 11*l.* 11*s.*—1395. Lantern of Perforated and Stamped Brass suspended by three chains; brought from Seville, 9*l.*—1425. Pair of Branches of Brass with Prickets for Candles—temp. Henry V., 7*l.* 10*s.*

The collection, as many of our readers are aware, contained fragments from many places of interest:—from Hever Castle, Crosby Hall, St. Katherine's at the Tower, and, as we have seen, Nonsuch and Layer Marney. Mr. Cottingham had great opportunities,—and he seldom let an opportunity slip. The cost of the collection must have been double what it realized;—and when we consider the further cost to which Mr. Cottingham had gone to display and render his collection useful, the result must have been a great disappointment.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The Committee of the Architectural Exhibition have, it is stated, taken the Portland Gallery in Regent Street for their exhibition,—and arranged that it shall open on the 12th of January next.

The American papers state that a Union Monument is to be erected at New Orleans, at a cost of 20,000 dollars. It will perpetuate the name of Henry Clay—a statue of whom is to occupy the summit.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.
M. JULLIEN'S ANNUAL SERIES OF CONCERTS.
THE LAST WEEK BUT ONE.
First Night of the INDIAN QUADRILLE.
Solo—Signor BOTTESINI.
Solo—Signor SIVORI.
Solo—M. BILLET.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that the Theatre being let at Christmas for Dramatic Performances, the present is most positively the last week but one.

The Programme for Monday, November 24th, will include the first performance of the New Indian Quadrille, composed on Last Indian Melodies, and exhibiting the peculiar characteristics of the Instruments of the Native Indians used in their Dances, Festivals, Sports, Wars, Religious Ceremonies, &c. &c.; a Solo on the Contra-basso by Signor Bottesini; a Solo on the Grand Pianoforte of the Messrs. Erard, to whom was awarded the Council Medal at the Great Exhibition, by M. Billet; a Solo on the Violin by Signor Sivori; the New Waltzes and Polkas of the Season, &c. &c.

GRAND BAL MASQUÉ.

M. JULLIEN'S Annual Grand Bal Masqué will take place on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th, and terminate the season.

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—From the crowded state of Exeter Hall yesterday week, it may be inferred that the *London Sacred Harmonic Society* commands a public of its own. From the manner in which the first part of Handel's 'Belshazzar' was then performed, it seems no less certain that the audience must be gathered by something more—or something less—than a love of art. The execution was as mediocre as it was in 1847 [*vide Athen.* No. 1013], when we last heard 'Belshazzar' under Mr. Surman's conduct. What avail a company of voices rich in tone, if their conductor cannot or will not give them the time? How, again, can the *solo* performers be expected to make the most of Handel's most tedious recitatives and obsolete airs,—when the accompaniment so often resembles the attempts of ill-assured scholars picking their unsteady way through an unfamiliar composition?—Drawbacks like these, though obviously unfelt by the subscribers of the *London Sacred Harmonic Society*, must be stated without reserve, for the sake of popular taste and knowledge.—The singers were Miss Birch, Miss Dolby, Mr. Lawler (who is improved, we think,) and Mr. R. F. Smith.

MISS DOLBY'S SOIRÉES.—The first of these concerts—besides offering the charm of the first chamber-music heard after a pause—was interesting in right of the vocal music selected. It was a great pleasure to hear the fine *aria* 'Aure, deh per Pietà,' from Handel's 'Giulio Cesare' so well sung by Miss Dolby. The effect produced by her in two of the French songs by M. Gounod, noticed last week, (in spite of transposition and the disadvantage of their being given with English, not French text) augurs for them an earlier popularity than music uncommon in style may generally expect to gain. Charming, too, is Mendelssohn's song 'In a distant Land,'—and very well was it given by Mr. Benson. Compared with these, the Hebrew mother's cradle song, from Spohr's 'Fall of Babylon,' had a *faded* unvocal air, in spite of the beautiful tone and true expression of Mrs. Endersohn. Miss Barclay, who appears to possess an agreeable *mezzo-soprano* voice, made her *début.* Two instrumental Quartetts were performed by Messrs. Dando, Loder, R. Blagrove and Lucas:—with the last of whom Mr. W. S. Bennett gave Mendelssohn's first Sonata with *violoncello*,—more slackly than we like to hear Mr. Bennett play.

HAYMARKET.—Mr. Webster has availed himself of the very short interval betwixt season and season thoroughly to clean and ornament anew his theatre; which now wears a gay and comfortable appearance calculated to attract "the best of good company,"—did not that section of Her Majesty's lieges see fit to sit down to dinner when the curtain is drawing up, and *vice versâ*.—That the management is looking to English comic opera as a settled entertainment, may be inferred, not only from the somewhat enlarged and amended orchestra and chorus gathered, but also from the smooth and spirited performance of Mr. Macfarren's 'Charles II.'—by no means an easy work—which was the opera selected for the commencement of the season. On Monday this was received with well-merited cordiality. The cast is the same as it was at the *Princess's Theatre*, with the substitution of Miss Pyne for Mrs. Weiss and of Mr. Durand in the part of *Rochester*. So fully was the music discussed by us on the occasion of its first performance and publication [*Athen.* Nos. 1149, 1155] that we are spared the necessity of now returning to the subject.

'The Ladies' Battle,' originally produced at the Olympic, was on Tuesday transplanted to this stage, in consequence of Mrs. Stirling's engagement here. That lady and Mr. Leigh Murray supported their original characters in the piece,—and their success on the occasion proved that their accession adds considerably to the strength of the company. Mrs. Stirling played with more than her usual care and precision; and made out well the peculiarities of the delicate situation in which she is involved by the plot. The blending of vivacity in manner with sentiment in the emotions is a matter of difficulty requiring native genius backed by great application to achieve:—and it is only of late years that Mrs. Stirling has shown these artistic attributes. Ere she reached this point, she had to undergo a weary interval of private labour and public neglect;—but her reputation may now be considered as permanently established. We mention these facts because they read a lesson to the young histrionic artist which should always be borne in mind.—Mr. Webster made his first appearance for the season on the same evening in the character of *Tartuffe*:—a part in which he has made manifest improvement since we last saw his performance of it. It is now distinguished by a calmness and power in the management of the curious and difficult details of the character which deserve particular notice.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The postponement of the first concert of the *Orchestral Society*, announced for Monday evening, was caused by a circumstance on which it will be necessary for us to comment, whatever be its issue as regards the new establishment. For the issue, however, we wait, ere entering into the matter.

The *Society of British Musicians* has held its first Chamber Concert for the season. A Star-chamber concert this might have been, held with closed doors, to judge from every one's complete silence on the occasion.—The *Réunion des Arts*, too, has recommenced its sociable meetings.—The fifth of December is the day fixed for the performance of Haydn's 'Seasons' by the *Sacred Harmonic Society*. The version about to be used seems to be Prof. Taylor's.

We have great pleasure in inserting the following communication from a correspondent at Birmingham.—

> I write to inform you of the formation of a new society here, called the *Birmingham Orchestral Musical Union*, founded and conducted by Mr. Baker, one of our townsmen, who was educated at the Conservatory of Leipsic. The professional and amateur gentlemen of this town and its immediate neighbourhood are rallying round him fast,—the band already numbering more than fifty performers, who have now in rehearsal works by Mendelssohn, Mozart, Weber, and Beethoven, for a series of monthly concerts to be given by the society. The subscription list is also rapidly increasing.

It is hardly needful for us to express our best wishes for the success of this new orchestra and of the monthly concerts in which its accomplishments are to be displayed. Every such effort made in the provinces towards lessening their implicit dependence on the metropolis must command our sympathy. We wish, in addition, that the gentlemen of Birmingham would do, what they might easily do,—make their fine town a station for musical pilgrims from all the European capitals, by simply attaching a first-class player to their first-class organ in the Town Hall.

M. Billet has been added to M. Jullien's list of *solo* players. Mrs. A. Newton has succeeded to Miss Dolby as singer.—We learn by more than one letter that Signor Sivori's 'Carnaval de Cuba' has proved as distasteful to the musical part of the promenaders as it was to ourselves, when the piece was first let loose on us at Mrs. Anderson's concert [see *ante*, p. 691].

Mdlle. Cruvelli's *Norma* is stated by some of our contemporaries to have won a triumphant success at the Italian Opera in Paris. While we credit the young songstress to the fullest with the bouquets and plaudits lavished on her,—it is due to every one to add, that the rapturists refer to her performance of the part as having been not less admirable than it was in London. Now, it may be recollected, our estimate was more critical than it was laudatory,—and thus we would rather, for our next London season's sake, have read of Mdlle. Cruvelli's improvement. This, we apprehend, is hardly to be looked for, so long as she is so warmly greeted and so rapturously panegyrized.

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"False gods," says the rhyme, "are made by fanatics."—Since writing the above, has arrived the *Gazette Musicale;* the report of which tallies in some respects so closely with the reports of the *Athenæum*, that, for the benefit of distant readers, we cannot but render it.—

"Mdlle. Cruvelli," says the critic, "does not follow tradition in her manner of understanding the part of *Norma*. Where her predecessors sang *piano*, she sang *forte*,—where they slackened time, she hurried it. Most of all did we find that she abused her *mezzo voce*, in contrast with violent bursts of voice.—To be able to diminish the volume of tone is very well, provided enough tone is left to be heard. To sing betwixt the teeth and with half-closed lips is to sing for one's self, and not for the public."

A waft of rumour from Vienna informs us that Mr. Gye has engaged Herr Anders, the tenor, who has been more than once announced as coming to England.—On the other hand, Austrian opera seems to be in a state as little satisfactory as Austrian finance,—Mdlle. Zerr's disgrace being said to have left the theatres of Vienna without a presentable *prima donna*.—Further, we read that sundry managers are in hot pursuit of Mdlle. Wagner,—the report growing that M. Meyerbeer makes the production of 'L'Africaine' depend on her being engaged. Whichever theatre carries off the prize, we suspect that the chary and deliberate *Maestro* has by no means gathered from 'Le Prophète' laurels enough to satisfy him; and that till this be done he will hardly distract European attention by exciting it with a new opera. Then, there is expectation to be kept a-going; and the 'Camp de Silésie' has still to be established.—In any event, we cannot conceive M. Meyerbeer producing a new grand opera anywhere else than in Paris, simply because he has there opportunities for trying experiments and for finishing his composition in the theatre such as the patience and the pockets of no other management can supply. —Ours are strange times; and it remains to be seen what Art will gain or lose by the almost universal fusion and confusion of schools, languages, occupations. The days seem rapidly approaching when we shall have Italian Opera-houses without an Italian composer or one Italian singer!—Another German tenor, Herr Formes, brother to our *basso*, has appeared at Berlin. There, too, the completed portions of Mendelssohn's 'Loreley' have been executed as concert music. When—and where—shall we hear them in London?

This evening M. Limnander's new three-act opera, 'Le Château de la Barbe-Bleue,' was to be produced at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris.—A new three-act opera, 'La Butte des Moulins,' by M. A. Boieldieu, has been accepted at the *Opéra National*. —Musical societies appear to be all the fashion with our neighbours just now,—another new one having just commenced its operations at the Casino Paganini, under the direction of M. Malibran.

M. Duprez was to make his first appearance as a composer on Monday last at Brussels;—where his opera, with the romantic title of 'L'Abîme de la Maladetta,' was to be produced, with Mdlle. Duprez, of course, in a principal character. The young lady is described as having sung, said and acted the part of *Marie*, in Donizetti's 'Fille du Régiment,' with entire success.

Mr. Bunn, it seems, intends to commence his season with a dramatic company; and we are informed that Miss Glyn is engaged,—and will appear on the opening night as *Bianca*, in 'Fazio.' Mr. Walter Shelley is also spoken of as being selected for a leading position;—but the general arrangements appear as yet to be far from decided.

MISCELLANEA

King's College, London.—We understand that the Venerable Dr. Warneford, in addition to many other acts of munificence, has just founded in perpetuity eight new scholarships, of the annual value of 25*l.* each, for the medical students of King's College, London. Six of these (two to be filled up each year) are intended for the encouragement of a previous good education, as tested by an examination in divinity, Greek, Latin, mathematics, modern history, and French or German, which will be held immediately after matriculation at King's College, at the beginning of each October term. The subjects will this year be settled immediately after the sealing of the trust-deed. In future, twelve months' notice will be given. These scholarships will be filled up for the first time in October, 1852; and will be tenable for three years, on condition of a certificate of good conduct and diligence being produced at the close of each year. Two other scholarships, tenable for two years (one to be filled up each year), are designed for the benefit of resident medical students; and will be awarded to that student who, having resided in the College-rooms without blame during a considerable part of two years, shall thereupon pass the best examination in divinity, and in such professional subjects as are suitable to his standing. The first examination for this scholarship will take place at the close of the summer session in 1853.—*Times.*

Remarkable Fall of Snow.—11 A, Wellington-street, Victoria-park, London, Nov. 18.—At about half-past nine this morning my attention was arrested by a smart fall of snow, *the sun shining brilliantly during its precipitation.* A keen visit from the N. or N.N.W. was blowing, and small masses of that particular variety of cumulus known as *scud* were drifting with considerable rapidity across the otherwise clear blue sky. Some cirro-strata were in the immediate neighbourhood of the sun's place, but they were evidently too far removed from the zenith to at all affect the snowy precipitation going on,—indeed, the northerly current was drifting them away. It was an interesting sight when the zenith was clear, which was most frequently the case, to look into the depths of the azure ocean, the only interruption being the myriads of flakes of snow dotting the clear heavens often with a silvery whiteness from the reflection of the sun's light. There was not the remotest idea conveyed to the mind *of a cloud from which the snow fell.* The masses of scud appeared to be too small and separated by intervals too considerable to lead to the idea that the snow originated in the usual atmospheric processes; and it was exceedingly interesting to observe that there was no augmentation or diminution *coincident* with the small clouds transiting the zenith. The entire phenomenon evidently led to the conclusion, that the fall of snow was one of those rare instances in which the usual link in the condensation and precipitation of vapour *the formation of cloud* was absent. Not the remotest approach to the appearance of a cloud was presented by the falling flakes; the azure of the sky was seen most strikingly distinct *through* the spaces not occupied by them. It would be interesting to know if at the distance of a mile or two *south* of the place of observation the falling snow presented the appearance of a cloud illumined by the sun: if so, the explanation is at once easy. The observer was situated in a portion of atmosphere in which so rapid a condensation was going on as to prevent the formation of vesicular vapour,—but, on the other hand, to form separate nuclei at considerable distances from each other. It was in fact a *sudden* agglomeration of the minute particles of invisible vapour somewhat in the manner of the rapid formation of heavy rain. Had the process occurred in the higher regions of the atmosphere, it is highly probable a cloud would have been observed, simply from the circumstance of the flakes of snow being seen in close proximity to each other—the effect of distance. The fall of snow lasted about half an hour; and it was exceedingly interesting to notice the contrast of the sun shining brilliantly during its continuance with the shrouded state of the sky by cloud afterwards without a flake being apparent.

WILLIAM RADCLIFF BIRT.

The Great Exhibition.—A valuable assortment of articles illustrative of the raw produce and manufactures of Sweden has just been presented by the Government of that country to the Royal Commission, and will prove an important addition to the trade collection now in process of formation at the Crystal Palace.—*Morning Paper.*

Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons.—The removal of the houses in Lincoln's Inn-fields adjoining the College, for the construction of the new museum, has been commenced. The buildings were lately in the occupation of Alderman Copeland; originally they formed Ben Jonson's Portugal Theatre, on the boards of which some of Shakspeare's principal plays were produced. Mr. Barry is the architect, and Mr. Lucas the builder of the new museum.—*Architect.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—T. D. W.—J. B.—J. O. W.—J. M. J.—L. H. R.—Major W. S.—H. N.—D. S.—received.

J. G. F.—We are much obliged to this correspondent,—and have availed ourself of his correction. The information which he thinks the public need can scarcely be wanted by the readers of the *Athenæum*,—who have had the opportunity of collecting it again and again from our columns. It may, however, be worth considering, whether some more formal statement may not at our leisure be made, to remove the misconception which our correspondent believes to be abroad.

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1811	1000	33 19 2	ditto	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	ditto	114 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£982 12 1	£1882 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3392	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

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Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55
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* Annual Premiums for 100l., with Whole Profits, payable for 21 years only.

Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50
£2 7 10	2 10 8	2 14 6	2 19 8	3 5 4	3 14 9	4 7 3

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Age when Policy was Issued.	Date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Reduced Annual Premium for the current Year.
20	On or before 14th May, 1845.	£1,000	£19 6 8	£10 12 8
30		1,000	24 8 4	13 8 7
40		1,000	31 10 0	17 6 6
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Age.	Sum Insured.	Duration of Policy.	Premium paid.	Bonus.
	£.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
30	500	5 years	74 15 0	37 10 0
..	1,000	7 years	174 1 0	97 10 0
..	1,000	8 years	200 0 0	140 0 0
..	2,000	9 years	440 10 0	225 0 0
..	2,000	10 years	602 15 4	313 10 0
..	3,000	11 years	691 1 0	423 10 0

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SPECIAL NOTICE.—ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS.
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The distinctive advantages offered by this Company are stated and illustrated in a popular and easy form, in a pamphlet recently published, entitled 'The Bonus System,' copies of which may be had at the Offices, and which should be perused by every one who has it in view to open a life policy.
A perusal of that Pamphlet, it is believed, will be sufficient to convince the reader that the mere amount of bonus declared by an Office, is not the only or the best test of the ultimate benefit to the Assured, and that the illustrations which are frequently given of the additions made to a few old policies effected probably in the early years of a life assurance business can be no criterion whatever of the probable future additions to be received by parties effecting policies now.
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£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
*1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	22 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	628 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

* EXAMPLE.—At the commencement of the year 1841, a person aged thirty took out a Policy for 1,000l., the annual payment for which is 24l. 1s. 8d.; in 1847 he had paid in premiums 168l. 11s. 8d.; but the profits being 2¼ per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is 22l. 10s. per annum for each 1,000l.) he had 157l. 10s. added to the Policy, almost as much as the premiums paid.

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REVIEWS

A Sketch of Suwarow, and his Last Campaign. By the late Major Edward Nevil Macready. Edited by an Officer of Rank. Smith, Elder & Co.

If the late Major Macready had lived, and continued to write military memoirs, he would have won considerable reputation in literature. Even in its unfinished state, the memoir before us displays a happy union of scientific observation with healthy sentiments, not always found united. The work is published by his widow; and in touching language is dedicated to the author's companions in arms,—"the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the 30th Regiment,"—in which he had served with great honour, and was justly popular. In his seventeenth year Mr. Macready won his Lieutenancy at Waterloo; and he afterwards went as Military Secretary to Ceylon, on the recommendation of no less an authority than the late Lord Hill. After his withdrawal from the army, he travelled into various parts of Europe at his leisure, and visited famous battle-fields:—and we only regret that he has not left behind him more writings equal to the volume before us,—which will repay those who care to study an extraordinary character.

Suwarow, the subject of this memoir, has not met with the posthumous fame that he merits. In the age in which we are living, we are perhaps too apt to underrate the powers and social value of those leaders, whether political or military, who have not first-rate intellect. In a life of action it is not mere intellect that dominates. The heart and its native impulses go a long way to originate and mould the working of the will. Major Macready calls Suwarow "a first-rate specimen of a secondary class of generals." But that designation does not quite describe the rank of Suwarow. He had first-rate moral qualities as a man, with self-denial and vehement perseverance. He was an enthusiast in his sense of duty, scorned self-indulgence in every shape, and had a contempt for wealth. He was one of those natures whose ardent sympathies influence others, stimulating by a species of incendiary force. For that patient and profound meditation necessary for the application of abstract truth he was not suited by either his talents or his temperament. Hence, as a General, with all his brilliant and commanding qualities, he never could graduate with Marlborough, Frederick, or Napoleon. But he had a genius of determination and a spirit of self-sacrifice which caused him to be followed with fiery ardour by his soldiers. It is a common error to suppose that Suwarow had no military system. His declamations against "theory" and "system-mongers" were founded in common sense. He had served in the Seven Years' War, and seen campaigns lost by a blind and ridiculous slavery to system. The military pedantry of the old system, ridiculed by Corporal Trim, when he says of Captain Tripet's evolutions "that one home thrust of the bayonet were worth it all," revolted the vehement spirit of Suwarow. As in other cases of reaction,—he went too far in his opposition; yet the great French military critic, Jomini, has vigorously justified many of the favourite maxims in the art of war acted on by Suwarow.

It is as a most extraordinary "character"—a strange specimen of human nature, compounded of ridiculous and sublime qualities,—that Suwarow will live in history. In physical appearance, he presented a wretched-looking worn-out frame, clad in shabby attire, and scorning all outward show. Let us show our readers Major Macready's life-like portrait of this Russian hero.—

"The man who acted thus towards sovereigns was in person miserably thin, and five feet one inch in height. A large mouth, pug nose, eyes commonly half shut, a few grey side locks, brought over the top of his bald crown, and a small unpowdered queue, the whole surmounted by a three-cornered felt hat ornamented with green fringe, composed the 'head and front' of Field-Marshal Suwarow; but his eyes, when open, were piercing, and in battle they were said to be terrifically expressive. When anything said or done displeased him, a wavy play of his deeply-wrinkled forehead betrayed, or rather expressed, his disapproval. He had a philosophical contempt for dress, and might often be seen drilling his men in his shirt sleeves. It was only during the severest weather that he wore cloth, his outer garments being usually of white serge turned up with green. These were most indifferently made, as were his large, coarsely greased slouching boots; one of which he very commonly dispensed with, leaving his kneeband unbuttoned, and his stocking about his heel. A huge sabre and a single order completed his ordinary costume; but on grand occasions his Field-Marshal's uniform was covered with badges, and he was fond of telling where and how he had won them. He often arose at midnight, and welcomed the first soldier he saw moving with a piercing imitation of the crowing of a cock, in compliment to his early rising. It is said that in the first Polish war, knowing a spy was in the camp, he issued orders for an attack at cock-crow, and the enemy expecting it in the morning, were cut to pieces at nine at night—Suwarow having turned out the troops an hour before by his well known cry. The evening before the storm of Ismail, he informed his columns—'To-morrow morning, an hour before daybreak, I mean to get up. I shall then dress and wash myself, then say my prayers, and then give one good cock-crow, and capture Ismail!' When Ségur asked him if he never took off his clothes at night, he replied, 'No! when I get lazy, and want to have a comfortable sleep, I generally take off one spur.' Buckets of cold water were thrown over him before he dressed, and his table was served at seven or eight o'clock with sandwiches and various messes which Duboscage describes as '*des ragouts Kosaks détestables*;' to which men paid 'the mouth honour, which they would fain deny, but dare not,' lest Suwarow should consider them effeminate. He had been very sickly in his youth, but by spare diet and cold bathing had strengthened and hardened himself into first-rate condition. English ale was his favourite drink. Soldiers, indifferently from any regiment, were his servants. His food, straw (for he used no bed), and lodging were the same as theirs. He saluted as they did; dispensed with pocket-handkerchiefs, like them; would be seen half-naked, airing his shirt and dressing himself at a watch fire, among a crowd of them; in short, he adopted all their habits. Descending to be their friend and model, he did not only what they were obliged to do, but whatever it was to their advantage should be done; and they were proud to imitate the man who was not less their comrade than their commander, and the companion of princes. The constraint of duty was unfelt—obedience was a delight to them. They called themselves his children, and him their father; and while he attended to their wants like one, his familiar jests with them, or in their presence, made every condescension convey some lesson. 'What I say to a soldier,' he observed, 'is told to his comrades at night, and next day the army know it. To impress on them the duty of implicit obedience, his aides-de-camp were accustomed to interrupt his dinner or his doze with 'You must eat no more,' or 'You must walk.'—'Ah!' he would answer, in affected surprise, 'by whose order?'—'By that of Field-Marshal Suwarow,' was the reply; and 'he must be obeyed,' was the laughing and submissive rejoinder. He once had his arm raised to strike a soldier, when an officer boldly exclaimed, 'The Field-Marshal has commanded that no one shall give way to passion,' he desisted, saying, 'What the Field-Marshal orders, Suwarow obeys.' His instructions tended to form the man as well as the soldier. 'If you perceive a cannon with lighted match,' he directs, 'rush upon it creeping, the ball will pass over your head—cannon and cannoniers are your own—overset the gun and spike it—the men may receive quarter. It is a sin to slay without a cause. Do no wrong to an unoffending party. He supplies you with meat and drink. A true soldier is no robber. Spoil is to be held sacred—if you capture a camp or fortress, it is all your own; but beware of laying your hands upon spoil without previous orders. Seek to die for the honour of the Virgin Mary—your mother (the Empress), and all the royal family. The church offers up prayers for those who fall—honours and rewards await those who live. A soldier should be healthy-minded, brave, intrepid, decisive, loyal, and honourable. Let him pray to God, from whom proceed victory and miraculous interpositions. God be our guide! God is our leader!' 'I don't know—I can't—impossible,' were words he hated. 'Learn—do—try,' he would exclaim. When a soldier is expected to act, and does nothing, he must do wrong—if he does something, there are chances he does rightly. Many a man has resources within himself that he is not aware of. Under Suwarow he is sure to do his best. If he went into a house when the army bivouacked, he frequently ordered away the doors and windows. 'I am not cold nor afraid,' he would say, and the soldiers, who laughed as they obeyed the order, would try to brave the cold like 'their father.' When provisions were very scarce, he not unfrequently met the difficulty by ordering a general fast; which, as he kept it religiously, was cheerfully acquiesced in by the men."

It is hardly possible in ransacking history to find an exact military counterpart to Suwarow. In his dauntless valour and passionate desire to push on war with the greatest rapidity, Blucher is like him; but the Russian general had no vices, and was neither a glutton nor a gambler. At times he puts us in mind of the courage combined with eccentricity and genius in the Napier family; but Suwarow, though he spoke six languages and was very capable of study, wanted the exact sciences. He had seen them misapplied in war, and had not sufficient genius to discern their right application; yet if he had been bred up under Napoleon or Wellington he might have cured the faults of his military mind. He had great powers of vituperation, and in a popular system of government would have been doubtless a most effective popular leader if he had applied himself to political affairs. He often reminds us of both Cobbett and Carlyle. The following might pass for Carlylese:—"He scoffed," says our author, at "system-mongers, precise talkers, Demosthenesea-Hannibals, senate, scribentismus, and the hellish abysses of methodismus."—We almost expected in reading this peculiar vocabulary, in which he indulged, to meet with "shams," "mumbo-jumbo," "grinning phantasms," "hell broth,"—and the like. There is certainly nothing new under the sun. Suwarow was satisfied with inventing the dialect, and left others to enlarge it by "up-setting" Germanisms.

Even if the name of Nelson were not often mentioned in this memoir, it would be impossible to read of the professional enthusiasm and ideas of duty entertained by Suwarow without being constantly reminded of the hero of Trafalgar. These heroes were at once very like and very unlike in many things. Even the letters which they wrote to each other are in the same vein,—and they both profess their "enchantment" at being considered so like each other in appearance. Rarely has the sublime power of mind over matter been seen more strongly than in two shrivelled bodies inclosing the stirring natures of Nelson and Suwarow.

But of all his moral qualities the vigour of his will was the most remarkable in Suwarow. The strength of his nature lay in his power of willing,—and like all resolute persons, he preached it up as a system. "You can only half

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will," he said to people who failed. Like Richelieu, he wished to banish the word "impossible" from the dictionary. Taking this view of his native resolution along with the *bizarrerie* of his eccentric character, we cannot but suspect that Frederick of Prussia had produced great effect on his imagination. Suwarow is seen in more striking contrast in the present volume, because at the end are inserted two long chapters severely criticizing Mr. Alison's strictures on Suwarow and the Archduke of Austria. This volume is said to be "edited by an officer of rank,"—and it is quite right that such a work should have a professional editor. It is not in the least spirit of disparagement that we say, it is quite evident that it was not a *littérateur* who edited the volume,—for a striking effect has been lost. In the next edition we should recommend that all the critical matter appertaining to the Archduke of Austria should be cast into the main narrative, so as to present an artistic contrast between Suwarow, who joined second-rate science to first-rate moral force, and the Archduke of Austria, who presented the man of large intellect with feebleness of will. The man of native energy appears strikingly to advantage, and teaches us the important lesson how moral determination can carry men forward in affairs. Admirably does Major Macready say of Suwarow,—

"He is a glorious instance of what may be effected by the energetic development and exercise of qualities, the germs of which are in almost every human heart. Examples of a loftier class may readily be found, but none of more general application. His faults (at once so serious and so palpable) convey an universal lesson. His excellencies *every* soldier may aspire to emulate. The first show us how incumbent on us is the study of our art; the second, what earnest courage and devotion can effect towards covering with success our greatest errors. These qualities dignify our nature, by elevating a common energy to a level (as far as regards results) with rare and accidental gifts of intellect; they teach confidence to the soldier who distrusts his ability, by showing irrefutably that to strike strongly is next to striking skilfully; and they bid him 'on and fear not;' secure in the conviction that if his country be not benefited by his talent, it will at least by the example of his devotion."

In the Fine Arts and in Literature we every day see contrasts similar to that shown between Suwarow and the Archduke of Austria. We see every day resolute will and sustained enthusiasm triumphing over brilliant faculties with desultory purpose and wavering zeal.

The strictures of Major Macready on Mr. Alison's views of strategics it would lead us too far to discuss. Never did any unprofessional man utter so many peremptory comments on generalship as Mr. Alison. Major Macready is one of the many military authorities who have taken the liberty of dissenting from the historian. The latter's assertion, that the Archduke of Austria was "the general, of all others, who in those days of glory approached the nearest to ideal perfection," is torn to pieces by Major Macready; who, after offering his own detailed criticism on such an extravagant *dictum*, appeals to the statements of other writers, and adopts as his own the well-drawn character of the Archduke by Capefigue.

From the author's own journals only one extract is given:—which we subjoin, as being almost fit letter-press for Landseer's picture of 'Peace and War.'—

"On coming down to breakfast at the 'Black Eagle,' we encountered our first memorial of the battle in the mark of a musket shot under the cornice of the room, with the date inscribed below it—'15th Agosto 1799.' The guide provided for us was a respectable-looking lame old soldier, who said he had served at Austerlitz and Eylau, and had been twice wounded, but who, though recommended to us as 'parfaitement instruit,' I soon found knew next to nothing of Novi; and it pained me to find in his conversation an obtrusive exhibition of shallow infidelity, so that when I set out for Pasturana, I was not sorry to avail myself of his lameness as an excuse for dispensing with his further services. The road from the Gavi gate of Novi to this village, diagonally crosses the French position. The day was glorious, and showed me all I came to see most famously. The walk is chiefly along the edge of the great ravine or valley which backs in the position, except immediately behind the town and castle of Novi. Pasturana is most picturesquely placed with its castelletto on the right of the steep road and defile which goes down to the Riasco, and a precipitous bank upon its left. It is very pretty, but a deadly thing to look at, as the only passage of a routed army. When I drank to Major Kies in the Riasco water, I did not forget Grouchy and Perignon and Colli. I looked up, and thought of Lemoine's division. Good heavens! —could a bone in their bodies have come down unbroken? No wonder the Frenchmen write of 'l'épouvantable boucherie;'—it could be no less with earnest men under furious excitement on such ground as this. How beautiful, peaceful, and sunshiny it all lay before me! I had walked up to a height, between the village and the next ravine, towards Bassaluzzo, where a religious mission had yesterday put up a gigantic crucifix, and as I was intently peopling the ground before me with Bellegarde's and Richepanse's battling horsemen, a man came suddenly round the bushes and disturbed me; it was a priest—one of the mission from Genoa. I bowed to him, and he to me. A half-expended soldier and a youthful priest exchanging courtesies on a whilome battle-field, where all else was stillness, cheerful sunshine, dappled light and shadows, and an universal beauty that quite stirred the heart, formed a picture somewhat different from that I was endeavouring to conjure up. God grant that past and present may long continue to offer such contrasts! As I was singing my way back, I came bolt upon an old peasant, who stared for a moment, and then broke into a shout of 'Allegre, allegre!'"

The main interest of this book, we may say in conclusion, lies in the portraiture of Suwarow. It is a volume that should find its place in every military library,—being thoroughly informed with soldierly sentiments.

Arctic Searching Expedition: a Journal of a Boat-Voyage through Rupert's Land and the Arctic Sea, in Search of the Discovery Ships under command of Sir John Franklin. With an Appendix on the Physical Geography of North America. By Sir John Richardson. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

The reader who shall open these volumes hoping to find in them a new chapter of the long and varied Saga of Arctic adventure, will be disappointed. Sir John Richardson deservedly enjoys a high scientific reputation,—but he is not the man to indite a northern *Eöthen*. Vainly for him do gorgeous Auroras illumine the Arctic way. With wonderful pertinacity and endurance he marches onward, day after day, unmoved and unbending;—and in the same unwearying and undiscursive spirit he carries his readers through the mere precisions of his logbook-like pages from the beginning to the end of his narrative.

This narrative, in common with the narratives of the commanders of the other searching Expeditions, has been, in another form, already before the public. We may state briefly, however, here, in relation to the first part of Sir John Richardson's book, that the object of his Expedition was, to examine the coast between the Mackenzie and Coppermine Rivers, and the shores of Victoria and Wollaston Lands lying opposite to Cape Krusenstern. How much was done, and how much left undone, is already matter of history; nor do we find anything in Sir John Richardson's more detailed 'Journal' calculated to give a fresh interest to our readers. —It will be remembered, that the task of exploring the shores of Victoria and Wollaston Lands was left to Mr. Rae, who accompanied Sir John Richardson; and it may also be remembered, that considerable dissatisfaction was expressed when it became known that he had not succeeded in effecting it. It will be seen by the following extract how entirely Sir John Richardson absolves him from blame.—

"Mr. Rae's failure in crossing to Wollaston Land is to be attributed solely to the strait being filled with impracticable ice. I know from his private letters that the mortification he experienced in the result is much more severe than he has thought proper to express in his official despatch. The presence of ice in Dolphin and Union Straits and in Coronation Gulf for two or more successive seasons, where the experience of former years had led us to expect a comparatively open sea, is suggestive of the manner in which a party may be shut up in these regions, and leads to many melancholy reflections. Every reader of my narrative of the proceedings of the expedition will be aware of how much I was indebted to Mr. Rae's activity and intelligence throughout its progress; and this seems to be the appropriate place for me to express formally my sense of obligation to him for his sound advice and co-operation on every emergency. His society cheered the long hours of an arctic winter's absence from my wife and family, and it was in a great measure owing to his skill and assiduity in observing, that our experiments on magnetism during our stay at Fort Confidence were carried on so as to be productive of scientific results."

Undeterred by former failures, it was Mr. Rae's intention to set out in April last from Great Bear Lake, in the hope of crossing on the ice to Victoria Land,—and of continuing his search in a boat as soon as the navigation should be opened;—and we are happy to know that he has been in a great measure successful.

Sir John Richardson brings the full force of statistics to show the abundance of game which rewarded the efforts of his hunting parties in the winter of 1848-9. To the middle of April in the latter year, there were received in the storehouse attached to their winter quarters 5,191 fish, 13,810 lb. of fresh venison, 9,220 lb. of half-dry venison, 360 lb. of pounded meat, 353 lb. of reindeer fat, and 625 reindeer tongues. "In addition to the above," says Sir John,—"Mr. Bell brought up, in autumn, 1,200 lb. of dried meat from Fort Simpson, 6 cwt. of barley-meal, and three kegs of rough barley, several 90 lb. bags of flour, some bags of potatoes, with tea and sugar, together with a full supply of pemican for Mr. Rae's summer expedition, and for the provisioning of the men returning to England. So well provided, we had no dread of want at any time, and passed the winter in abundance. Our men had each a daily ration of 8 lb. of venison on five days in the week, and on the other two from 10 lb. to 15 lb. of fish. The women also received rations, and the children smaller allowances. Barley and potatoes were issued in addition as long as they lasted, and flour occasionally. All the men preferred barley-meal to wheaten flour, as it answered better for thickening the soup, and they thought that it was a more substantial article of diet. The rough barley was beaten in a wooden trough until the husks separated, and then boiled whole along with venison, in which way it made a nourishing soup, that was much relished by all the party. Few of the Europeans consumed the whole of their provisions, and the Indians were generally in attendance at their meals to receive the surplus. Several feasts varied the monotony of our winter life: one was given as a house-warming when the buildings were finished; another, as is customary at all the posts, on the first day of the new year; and two others when the winter was further advanced. On these occasions, the fishermen and wood-cutters were called in, and the whole establishment, man, woman, and child, supped at long tables placed temporarily in the hall. Preparations for the feasts were made by a great baking of bread, pies, and tarts for two days previously; and tea was served liberally as long as any of the party felt an inclination to drink. The tables were then cleared away, and the dance was

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kept up with vigour to a late hour, or rather to an early one, for the party did not separate till the morning was advanced. Mr. Bell and Bruce were the musicians. The latter, with that aptness which the half-breeds show to learn anything that comes under their observation, had made his own fiddle, and taught himself to play upon it."

The character of habitual liars generally attributed to the Esquimaux and Indians, is confirmed by Sir John Richardson. With respect to the Chipewyans, he says:—

"Another habit which darkens the shade in the character of these Indians is that of lying, which they carry to such an extent, even among themselves, that they can scarcely be said to esteem truth a virtue. If a young man has been successful in his morning's hunt in a time of famine, he does not rush into his family circle with joy beaming on his countenance, to tell that there is food, but, assuming an aspect of sadness, squats himself in silence beside the fire. The women with doubt and anxiety examine his shoes and dress for spots of blood, that may betoken the death of an animal, but discovering none, put the question, 'Did you see no deer?'—'Not one, the deer are all gone, not a single footstep was to be seen.' When the colloquy has continued for a time, and hope seems to be extinct, he then draws out from beneath his shirt two or three tongues, as the case may be, and says with an air of the utmost indifference, 'You may go for the meat.' It is not, however, merely at such times, and to enhance the pleasure by previous disappointment, that truth is violated, but on almost every occasion; and the skill of an Old Bailey practitioner would find exercise in eliciting facts from the mass of contradictions with which they overload them. A story, which was at first a pure invention, or perhaps, a perversion of some simple occurrence, becomes so changed by the additions it receives in its transmission from individual to individual, that it deceives the originators, and if it bears on the safety of the community, may spread consternation among them, and occasion a hasty flight."

Although it may be desirable to give a more permanent character to the proceedings generally of the Arctic Searching Expeditions than their embodiment in periodical publications,—it is in the scientific portion that the chief value of these volumes consist. The physical geography of North America is here very fully described; and our author laboured diligently in his self-imposed vocation as naturalist during his journey. With respect to the climatology of Arctic America he puts forward the following meteorological speculations, which possess considerable interest with reference to the fate of Sir John Franklin.—

"The idea of a cycle of good and bad seasons has often been mooted by meteorologists, and has frequently recurred to my thoughts when endeavouring to find a reason for the ease with which at some periods of arctic discovery navigators were able to penetrate early in the summer into sounds which subsequent adventurers could not approach, and to connect such facts with the fate of the discovery ships. But neither the periods assigned, nor the facts adduced to prove them by different writers, have been presented in such a shape as to carry conviction with them, until very recently. Mr. Glaisher, in a paper published in the Philosophical Transactions for 1850, has shown, from eighty years' observations in London and at Greenwich, that groups of warm years alternate with groups of cold ones, in such a way as to render it most probable that the mean annual temperatures rise and fall in a series of elliptical curves, which correspond to periods of about fourteen years; though local or casual disturbing forces cause the means of particular years to rise above the curve or fall below it. The same laws doubtless operate in North America, producing a similar gradual increase and subsequent decrease of mean heat, in a series of years, though the summits of the curves are not likely to be coincident with, and are very probably opposed to, those of Europe; since the atmospherical currents from the south, which for a period raise the annual temperature of England, must be counterbalanced by currents from the north or other meridians. The annual heat has been diminishing in London ever since 1844, according to Mr. Glaisher's diagram, and will reach its minimum in 1851. It can be stated only as a conjecture, though by no means no improbable one, that Sir John Franklin entered Lancaster Sound at the close of a group of warm years, when the ice was in the most favourable condition of diminution, and that since then the annual heat has attained its minimum, probably in 1847 or 1848, and may now be increasing again. At all events, it is conceivable that, having pushed on boldly in one of the last of the favourable years of the cycle, the ice, produced in the unfavourable ones which followed, has shut him in, and been found insurmountable; but there remains the hope that if this be the period of rise of the mean heat in that quarter the zealous and enterprising officers now on his track will not encounter obstructions equal to those which prevented their skilful and no less enterprising and zealous predecessor in the search, from carrying his ships beyond Cape Leopold."

Although not a professed geologist, Sir John Richardson gives a lucid and interesting account of the geology of North America,—a considerable tract here described having been visited by no other geologist than himself. According to our author, there are vast mineral treasures in the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company, which he has no doubt abound in metallic wealth of far greater value than any returns which the fur trade can yield.

The Fair Carew; or, Husbands and Wives. 3 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

Most frequently when we read a novel we feel thankful that the course of this world is not ordered by the dispensers of poetical justice. There is much grumbling at things "as they are;" but let those who think they could mend them write a novel—and then compare it with the poor, old, original, vilified world which has lasted better or worse for six thousand years. Novelists have absolute autocratic control over the destinies of their characters; but for the most part their web of Fate would not weave into stuff for a week's real life out of a lunatic asylum. Therefore, we rejoice in the burden of that sailor's song,—

> For Providence will have its way
> Let men do what they can, brave boys.

The reading of 'The Fair Carew' has suggested these moral reflections. Clever—and very clever—this work certainly is. Nothing much smarter in style have we for some time met with, unless it be the far less agreeable smartness of Miss Bronte. But rarely, at the same time, have we read a novel so eminently artificial both in plot and in incident. The smallest exertion of common sense would have inevitably cut down the three orthodox volumes before us to an uncanonical octavo: but then a good deal of entertainment would have been lost,—some spirited descriptions and some effective situations. The characters seem to be nearly

> all made out of the carver's brain,

—to have no relation to any prototypes in flesh and blood. The scene is laid in various parts of England, and the journeyings to and fro are all within the circuit of a hundred miles; but the reader is as much bewildered as Mrs. Hardcastle after the drive down "Feather-bed Lane, Heavy-tree Heath, and Crackskull Common,—with a circumbendibus that left them in the horse-pond at the bottom of the garden."—The style is, however, carefully finished; and, in spite of these drawbacks, the book carries the interest of the reader on to the end,—though it drags somewhat in the second volume.

The story turns upon the secret marriage of the heir of the proud Luttrels with a lovely cousin belonging to a tabooed branch of the family:—and the sketch of this family, with which the volumes open, may afford in the very outset a specimen of the lively manner which forms their principal charm to the close.—

"The name of Luttrel is held in high esteem in its native county. Its origin is ancient enough to insure it a prominent position amongst the surrounding gentry; and although, up to the time when our story commences, the head of the house remained still untitled, the family had, in its collateral branches, formed many a noble alliance. More than commonly prosperous had been its career; by whatever name we may choose to designate that prevailing turn to good or evil which is often observed to influence collective portions of men as well as simple individuals—whether we call it luck or fortune, blind fate or an overruling providence, the mysterious tendency has seldom been more convincingly manifested than amongst these Luttrels of Horton. For many generations they had been advancing in wealth and dignity, and had witnessed in their steady ascent the decay or downfall of more than one rival race, which had been less auspiciously favoured in the first instance, or less gifted with the foresight and discretion requisite to make use of the opportunities actually afforded it. It seemed as if the very same accidents which tended to injure or mortify other people, became, in the case of the Luttrels, a positive blessing. Did one of them chance to break his neck in the hunting field, or convey the contents of his fowling-piece into his own person instead of the game he was pursuing, it would turn out to be that very individual of the family who could best be spared—some one too dull or ungainly to be valuable in his generation. Did another happen to be prematurely cut off by typhus, or overturned in a tilbury, who cared? it was but some spendthrift who would have gambled away his portion of the hereditary acres, or some idle youth raw from college, whose death occurred just in time to prevent his disgracing himself and his kindred by marrying an opera dancer or his mother's maid. On the other hand, when the proud spirit of the Luttrels was galled by some member of their lineage seeking, in mercantile pursuits, the independence not to be acquired by hanging idly on the paternal estate, time never failed to soothe their displeasure; for wealth was sure to reward the adventurer and command the outward respect, at least, of his haughty kinsfolk, who refused not to acknowledge the rich London merchant as a loving cousin, and never scrupled applying for his co-operation when a godfather was in request, or a poor relation was being fitted out for India at the family expense. Marriage, too, that stumbling-stock to many a family in its march to preferment, proved in most instances a useful auxiliary to the Luttrels; a circumspect prudence governing their conduct in this, as in other matters of business. For two succeeding generations had the heads of the family become enamoured of the respective heiresses of the estates adjoining Horton; and the proceeding, which turned out remarkably well in both cases, was imitated by other members of the family, each in his degree and profession. The aspirants for clerical honours, for stalls and prebends, attached themselves to the offspring of deans, archdeacons, and so forth; those learned in the law pined for the fair ones whose relations were nearest the woolsack; while the bold ensigns and gallant lieutenants, whose future glories were to illustrate the family name, were apt, by the same singular fatality, to fall much in love with the daughters of their commanding officers. In short, they who have heard the character of Cupid described as rash, frivolous, thoughtless, or headstrong, would find themselves quite at a loss, did they attempt to reconcile any of these epithets with what might be observed of his doings in this family; of so very different a disposition seemed the little Cupidons who managed the love department in the house of Luttrel."

From an exception to this golden marriage rule springs the gentle being into whose toils the hero of the proud house ultimately falls,—and out of the clandestine union of these two arises, as we have said, the involvement of the story. The introduction of young Hartley Luttrel to the "fair Carew" and their early love, are well touched in and claim the reader's

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sympathy. The "widow Carew," mother to the fair Selby, is drawn at first as a pleasant and estimable woman; but no sooner has she secured her son-in-law, and through him her revenge on his family, than her claws grow sharp and strong under the velvet exterior, and she figures to the end as an impersonation of *l'idée d'une belle mère*. Hartley Luttrel, the son-in-law and hero of the tale, departs immediately after the ceremony to join his regiment about to embark for the Peninsula, where the war was then raging:—and we may remark, as an instance of the defective motive in which this book abounds, that though he has very little to do—he does not indeed appear again until the *dénoûment*—yet he contrives to be about the most ungentlemanlike hero that we have met with in the course of a long experience in novel reading. Of course the author stands sponsor for him as endowed with all the usual complement of heroic properties; but we confess that to us he appears to be destitute of the first elements of the character which she would assign to him. The departure of her husband of an hour leaves the "Fair Carew" in an equivocal and dangerous position; not through any levity or indiscretion of her own,—for she is represented throughout as a model of constancy and propriety,—but circumstances become unmanageably awkward. Her husband majestically refuses to avow their marriage until after his return from abroad,—quarrels with his mother-in-law because she remonstrates with him,—and vents his ill-humour on poor Selby because he supposes her to share in the remonstrance. Matters become complicated by the return of the Widow Carew's scapegrace husband after he had been for fifteen years believed to be comfortably drowned:—a neat marble tablet recording his fate and virtues being erected to his memory amongst the monuments of his grand Luttrel relations.

When the "Fair Carew" emerges from her retirement events grow still more perverse. She is carried by a stratagem of her father, "Jack Carew," to visit the Luttrels; who, little suspecting her connexion with their only son, receive her kindly. Indeed her success becomes somewhat embarrassing: for her husband's uncle falls in love with her, to the great disgust of his eldest daughter;—as does also a certain friend of her husband's, on the point of marriage with a rich heiress. In short, there is no end to the mischief of which she is the cause;—for Selby Carew, though represented as the most candid and ingenuous creature in the universe, becomes involved in a maze of mystification and deception which affords a remarkable confirmation of "Cherubina's" remark in the 'Adventures of a Heroine,'—that, "though heroines begin with being all truth and purity, they generally end in being the greatest story-tellers in existence." The "Fair Carew" does not exactly tell falsehoods: she only deceives and perplexes everybody, and embroils the whole Luttrel family on her account,—to say nothing of Miss Drake and the handsome young captain who was engaged to be married to her. However, the tangled skein is dexterously unravelled,—and everything is, of course, brought to a leisurely and handsome conclusion.

A scene at the mess-table of the regiment which Hartley Luttrel has recently joined—and in which we get the first glimpse of the future heroine—will afford another pleasant sample of the smart things which these volumes contain.—

"It struck him as particularly unlucky, that of the very two men in the corps whose acquirements and turn of mind suited best with his own, the one practised six hours a day on the violin, and the other—was in love. Now, in the latter case, Hartley's sympathies might easily have been enlisted for the innamorato had the circumstances of his passion been somewhat more plainly defined; but to listen to the raptures of his brother-in-arms about the charms of a nymph he had never seen but twice, and of whose name, character, and dwelling-place he was still profoundly ignorant—why the scraping of the lieutenant was preferable to that. Then the style in which young Romilly chose to blazon forth his admiration for this unknown beauty, was wholly irreconcileable with the scrupulous delicacy of Luttrel's ideas on all subjects of this nature. * * 'Come, Romilly,' said one of the officers, as the colonel was one day called from the mess-table on some indispensable business, which happily relieved them for a few minutes from his disagreeable presence—'Come, Romilly, let's have that story of yours. I want to know how you first lighted on the charmer in the poke bonnet.'—'You have heard it before,' said Romilly, 'scores of times.'—'But your manner of telling it gives fresh interest to every new recital: besides, I want to know if the cow that played such a prominent part in the affair was of the real Essex breed or only an Alderney.'—'If,' said Romilly, 'I indulge myself in expatiating on this divine topic, understand, all of you, that it is out of no civility to yourselves, as I hold you utterly incapable of appreciating the merits of the subject of my narrative, or my admirable manner of relating it. It will simply be to gratify the incessant inclination I feel to talk about her; and I shall consider myself, to all intents and purposes, soliloquizing, just as much as if I were reciting Petrarch to a company of Hottentots.'—'We pass over the impertinence of the remark, in order to come to the story. It was amongst the puppet-shows at Winthrop fair that you met the damsel, wasn't it?'—'Yes,' said another.—'She was occupied professionally—dancing, as O'Halloran would say, "for the hare life," in a dirty pink petticoat trimmed with tin-foil.'—'I saw her,' said Romilly, taking no notice of the base insinuation, but throwing himself back in his chair, and fixing his eyes ecstatically on the ceiling,—'Let me recall the most blessed moment of my life! I saw her, for the first time, looking as if she had just descended from the heaven that is only worthy to contain her—surrounded, as you say, by hundreds of country dolts and rustic wenches, all gaping open-mouthed at the wonders around them. There, in the midst of noise and folly,—the titter of affectation, and the coarse laugh of the vulgar—there she stood! and how different from all that was in contact with her.'—'Why, yes; her divinity would be somewhat questionable, if she looked at all like a fellow in a smock-frock, or his rosy-faced sweetheart either.'—'Her countenance, indescribably soft, was radiant with mind as well as beauty; consummate grace was in every turn of her perfect form; purity of heart, and delicacy of sentiment, shone out in every action!'—'Especially when she bought that pound of gingerbread nuts, counted the change, and tied up the purchase in a checked pocket-handkerchief.'—'And if she had,' said Romilly, 'there was such native dignity in all her movements, that the vulgarity of the thing would have been unthought of; still would she have seemed a youthful Juno.'—'I don't believe Juno ever was youthful,' said Hartley. 'I have never heard of her but as bordering on a certain age.'—'You put me out,' said Romilly. 'Bingham's voice I am so used to, that I care no more for it than I do for the scraping of his eternal fiddle; but yours is new in the regiment, and disturbs the concatenation of my ideas. Where was I?'—'The catchword was Juno and gingerbread,' said Bingham: 'for once I'll stand prompter; though I heartily wish you would change the play.'—'Oh, Romilly is like Mr. Coates, he can play nothing but Romeo. * * The blue of her eyes——' 'They were black the last time you mentioned them.'—'Well, black or blue, they could not be purer than the mind which shone through them.'—'Well done, Romilly! old Mrs. Radcliffe herself could not hit off a description much better than that. You certainly improve every time you tell the story; and I think this is about the sixteenth recital that I have heard myself. Well, and now for the Alderney.'—'Stay one moment,' said Romilly, 'let me pause on the remembrance of my happiness, before it was snatched from me for ever. That look haunts me day and night. It was at the very instant our eyes met, and we read each other's thoughts, hers all innocence, mine all fire; at that moment of intoxicating delight, a cry went forth among the people, a bull had escaped from an adjoining field, and was rushing madly among the crowd. At that fearful shout the lovely being turned her head, and I heard her utter a cry of alarm. It rushed into my brain with the rapidity of lightning, that, in this fortuitous circumstance, some propitious power was at work to draw us irresistibly together. *I* was to be her deliverer, I—happiest of men—' 'Or boys,' muttered Bingham.—'I was destined to shield her from impending danger, perhaps at the sacrifice of my life: but what mattered that?'—'Certainly not, as far as you were concerned; but think of your country.'—'And then, in the first emotion of her gratitude, what encouragement might I not have expected? what bliss hereafter.'—'Well, and what did happen after all?' inquired Hartley.—'Alas! my good fellow, my hopes were all fallacious: the adventure was not reserved for me. As I flew forward to join her, a multitude of affrighted fools rushed between us, and we were divided not to meet again. Heaven knows! I did all I could: I buffeted the mob, and roared in my anguish louder than the bull himself. I knocked down two men, and tumbled over one old woman; and as I arose from saluting, not the old woman, but my mother earth, I caught a glimpse of the divine girl flying along the plain; but I never again came up with her: my efforts were all in vain. Fancy the horror that filled my soul at thus losing sight of her, while I was hemmed in and suffocated by the canaille: the brute, maddened by its pursuers, might even at that very moment be defacing the beauty that had driven me almost as wild as himself.'—'Speak more respectfully of that bull,' said Bingham; 'it is now my turn for a classical allusion, and who knows whether Jupiter himself might not have had a hand (or a hoof) in the affair: the old Thunderer has been much belied if he had not quite as quick an eye for a pretty woman as Captain Romilly of the —— Dragoons himself; and being still ignorant of the name of your incognita, whether she be a Miss Hopkins or Jenkins, Miss Smith or Miss Brown, allow me, in the meanwhile, to propose the health of the *Fair Europa*.'—'The colonel!' whispered some one, as the old gentleman re-entered the room.—'Very well,' said Bingham; 'then we'll defer the toast to some future opportunity, when we may drink it with all the honours.'"

Our readers will see that all this web of entanglement—of which we have presented only a portion of the complicated threads—is composed of the common material of novel manufacture; and we have adverted to it at this length only because it is spun by a more than commonly clever hand, and redeemed by an intellect clearly capable of far better things.—With all its faults, the book is very agreeable reading. The course of the story flows on safely and steadily. There are no pit-falls to entrap the unsuspecting reader into discussions on the "Law of Entail and Primogeniture," the "Corn Laws," the "Poor Laws," or any law of nature whatever transformed into a bobby:—and to those who take up a novel in the innocent hope of finding it one, it is well in these days to be certified of the fact.

The Application of Associative Principles and Methods to Agriculture: a Lecture. By the Rev. Charles Kingsley, Jun. Bezer.

Copious, vehement, and self-assured, the author of 'Alton Locke' and 'Yeast' is not likely to be wanting in spirit or in terms to maintain his opinions, be they right or wrong. His new pamphlet consists of the report of a lecture delivered by him on behalf of the Society for Promoting Working Men's Associations—a society which, as some of our readers may know, has already succeeded in establishing several small joint-work proprietaries in London and its suburbs, with as good a present prospect of success as new institutions based on chivalric more than on selfish principles could hope to show in so short a period. With ready logic,

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but not always with discriminating judgment, Mr. Kingsley attacks the economists for usurping a wider empire for their science than in his opinion they can exhibit a good title to:—Mr. Cobden for his theory of county voters,—Mr. Feargus O'Connor for his land scheme,—all mill-owners and dwellers in large towns like Manchester and Glasgow,—all builders of model cottages for agricultural labourers,—and indeed every other class of person and opinion not in harmony with his new doctrines of Christian socialism. He minces nothing—spares nobody.

Mr. Kingsley's great idea is, to restore the population to the land. Large towns are to him an unmitigated abomination. "The earth," he says, "hath bubbles,—and such cities as Manchester are of them: a short-sighted and hasty greed created them,—and when they have lasted their little time and had their day, they will vanish like bubbles." A sentence this, in which we venture to think the history is false and the prophecy futile. It does not seem to occur to theorists like the Rector of Eversley, that only by means of the manufactures which excite his wrath is the vast population of Lancashire enabled to live at all,—that the concentration of inhabitants in large towns, though unquestionably attended with many minor evils, has been of itself a sort of education to thousands, and by a rapid creation of wealth has rendered possible a better system of education for the entire country. In his fiery zeal he forgets half the problem which he ventures to propound and resolve.

Mr. Kingsley seems to think that there is some sort of magic in the soil,—that by some occult influence its possessors are by it transformed into beings "just, merciful, courteous, chivalrous, patriotic, self-sacrificing, honourable, men of honour," only to be classed with "such men as St. Louis and the Black Prince, Manny and Bayard, Raleigh and Sidney, and thousands more, the salt of the earth, which kept it from rotting into a mere chaos of trade selfishness." Of the mode of transformation he gives the following example.—

"Let the retired tradesman, the merchant, the manufacturer, the banker, buy an estate and settle on it—and the man is often changed at once—you do not know him again—his whole morality is changed. He has passed at once into a healthier, purer, more chivalrous atmosphere. He bids good-bye, at least as long as he is on his land, however covetous he may have been before, to his old trade-maxims, of buying cheap and selling dear; cash payment is no longer his only bond between man and man; money-making is no longer his whole object; money-value is no longer his sole test of the worth of everything. The healthy human nature of the man has cast its slough, and he begins making straightway all manner of unprofitable investments. He builds model cottages, and schools, and churches; he plants unnecessary plantations, and breaks up moors that will never pay him; he rushes into scientific farming, and becomes rather a *gobemouche* than otherwise, about new discoveries and experiments, and loses his money thereat;—and when the farmers laugh at him, he talks gallantly about the *maximum* of production, and permanent improvements, and profits to the nation at large from his private losses; and making a model estate for his son, and so forth. He interferes at the Board of Guardians in behalf of old women, and brings forward plans for reproductive pauper labour, and speechifies well and wisely at public meetings, and testifies against cruel farmers, and pays his labourers 10*s.* or 12*s.* when he could get them for 8*s.* or 9*s.*; nay, so far will he carry this new insanity of his, that he, dissenter though he may be, will often, to his honour, build and endow places of worship for the Church of England.—And why? because he feels that he is no longer to be a trader, but a gentleman. That he is now in a sphere of action where he is bound by laws of honour, laws of duty, laws of public opinion, moral laws, in short, and not merely economic ones; that he is tied to his labourers and his farmers by other ties than merely money ones; feudal ties, if you choose to call them so—though they are really Socialist ones; and so he enters into a true chivalrous competition against the ancestral owners of the neighbouring estates, to see if he cannot surpass them as—a questionable political economist—though all his old trade-energy and trade-shrewdness, and the sounder part of his economic training, come in to help him still,—but an excellent landlord, presenting to me one of the most pleasant spectacles on English soil at this day."

Whether the change here described so warmly be the result of some strange sympathetic influence exhaled from woods and meadows, we will not pretend to determine;—but if it shall ever be found that these effects are universal, then the sooner the London merchant and Manchester manufacturer are sent into Norfolk and Hampshire the better for themselves and for the world. Mr. Kingsley's Lecture should be read by such of our readers as like to be well acquainted with the progress of new doctrines. In the midst of not a little that is false in theory and inflated in sentiment, they will find in it passages of stirring eloquence, originality, and truth.

Kossuth and Magyar Land; or, Personal Adventures during the War in Hungary. By Charles Pridham. Madden.

The title of this book is somewhat of a misnomer. Of Magyar Land there is not much,—of Kossuth still less,—and of the war in Hungary nothing at all in its pages. Mr. Pridham never saw the Magyar leader till he was an exile beyond the Danube; and the war was already ended before he was able to set foot on the Hungarian soil. The interest of his book is, consequently, not of the kind which his title-page may suggest. But it *has* interest,—strong, curious, and absorbing:—partly as a story of adventure in countries little traversed by the class of ordinary summer tourists,—but chiefly at this critical moment as throwing the light of personal experience on police and military organization in the east of Europe.

In the spring of 1849, when, as our readers will remember, the last act of the Hungarian drama was about to be played out, Mr. Pridham engaged himself to go as correspondent to a morning contemporary, and supply reports from the actual scene of hostilities. Furnished by friends in London with letters of introduction to Kossuth, Bem, Görgey, and Guyon,—he set forth. At Paris he undertook to convey despatches from Count Telcki to Casimir Batthyany, Magyar Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and letters to all the principal chiefs, civil and military, of the insurgents. The latter, we are told, were inclosed in a pair of gaiters, destined to play an important part in his subsequent adventures,—"sewn into the lining by one of the prettiest of French grisettes." Arrived in Vienna, he found the frontier closed by police regulations. Whether the foreign branch of that ubiquitous establishment was already familiar with the personal sentiments of "our Correspondent"—which were, and are, extremely unfavourable to Austria—is not quite clear; but even the name of a writer in the *Times* failed to open the portals of Hungary for him. His assiduous attempts to gain his object, always baffled by the wily agents of the police office, gradually made him acquainted with the spirit and forms of that internal system of government:—and it is to his revelations on this subject that much of the present public interest of his narrative is owing.—

"I had scarcely been twenty-four hours in Vienna, before I learnt how systematically her bureaucracy went to work, and over what minute ramifications they extended their toils. Not the least noticeable of these is the Post Office, where it is notorious that a bureau is established for the purpose of overhauling every foreign letter *in transitu*. To such a degree of perfection has long practice conduced to bring the art, that, in nineteen cases out of twenty, detection is impossible; examine every letter you receive as minutely as you may, and it is only at intervals, when the veil is thrown aside, and you learn the unfortunate correspondent of some German journal in the north has fallen into the hands of these Philistines, that you can bring yourself to believe in its reality. Yet two ambassadors assured me that, for years, their local correspondence had been thus supervised; and one, unwilling to employ a courier for the express conveyance home of his despatches, was fain to accept the agency of the representative of a kindred nation. * * While, however, the authorities betray so laudable an anxiety to fathom the epistolary secrets of natives and foreigners alike, it must be owned they are equally impartial in their inquisition into their daily avocations and places of resort. There is not a café of any note without its spy; not a hotel without its waiter, who will carefully inspect the *sancta sanctorum* of your luggage; not a railway train without its keen observer; nor a railway station without its hanger-on. Still less is there a foreign embassy without its domestic traitor, and you need not be of an inquisitive turn of mind to learn that the penetralia of your own representative contains within its walls a hired reporter, by whom its secrets are punctiliously transmitted every twenty-four hours—aye, and that in one country in Europe, at all events, an Englishman's house is no longer his castle. You may be prone to inquire of what avail are all these finely spun meshes so indiscriminately thrown over a vast political area, and how, in the process of sorting, each atom is evolved from the mass into its own department: but bear in mind that they are elaborately systematized, and, though you may often elude them through employing their own machinery, you will be infallibly worsted in the end."

Unable to obtain a passport for Pesth, Mr. Pridham applied for a *visé* to Trieste:—intending to turn off at Glognitz, and strike across the Styrian mountains into Western Hungary. On his adventures in those wild and picturesque regions we cannot here pause. We prefer to pass on to the result of our adventurer's attempt to cross into Hungary in that direction,—with the tale of his personal pains and inconveniences.—

"Quitting Pinkafeld early in the morning, I struck in a direct course for the Platten See, on the banks of which an Hungarian force was alleged to be posted. The people in the villages, who were principally of German extraction, appeared greatly solicitous to learn my errand; but as sympathy for the Magyar cause could not be expected in the same degree as among the more mixed population in the interior, I refrained from satisfying their curiosity. Yet many of them assumed a sad expression of countenance in their allusions to the catastrophe impending over the country. In turning suddenly a corner of the road, I came quite unexpectedly upon an Austrian post, and before I had time to effect a retreat, I was greeted by a sentinel on the look-out, with the startling challenge, '*Was machen Sie?*' The guard turned out in a twinkling. Every officer chanced to be absent from the post, or my fate might have been reserved as heretofore, but the soldiers, in their ignorance, were naturally disposed to view the incident under its more serious complexion, the more that they were unable to decipher a syllable of my passport; and after a long consultation as to what was best to be done under the circumstances, it was finally resolved that I should be forwarded to the next post in charge of three of the men. I gathered from my guard that we should find a subaltern stationed there. Having once been stopped, however, the officer, regardless of the proofs which the passport afforded of my having passed through Friedberg and Pinkafeld unmolested, decided, after a conference with his subordinates, on sending me to his superior at the next post; and in this manner I was ultimately transferred to Friedberg. The civil commissioner happened to be on session. I entered the bureau of the police with a cigar in my mouth, but removed it immediately upon coming in presence of

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the magistrate. He eyed me, however, in a manner so vindictive, and assumed a scowl so savage and insolent, that, on perceiving he intended to continue smoking himself, I instinctively resumed it, determined rather to commit a breach of decorum, than manifest the slightest symptom of trepidation. He ordered me to extinguish it. I replied that I should be happy to comply the instant he set me a better precedent. For a moment he hesitated, and then removed his pipe; but while in the act of following his example, my cigar was dashed from between my teeth by one of the bailiffs in attendance. A momentary scuffle ensued between myself and my assailant, but I was in an instant surrounded, while the latter retreated in the rear. I now underwent a most rigorous search, and my scanty baggage was dragged from its receptacle and overhauled. At the same moment, my braces and cravat were duly probed, and my unfortunate brandyflask was returned to me smashed in the inside. The searchers passed their hands several times up and down my legs. Fortunately, I had previously turned up the part of the gaiters overlapping the shoes, and thus removed the greatest source of peril. But too cognizant of their dangerous contents, I could distinctly hear the crackling of the silver paper on which the letters were written, yet, by a miraculous interposition, their ears were as much at fault as their sight and sense of touch, and I, for the first time, escaped the terrible ordeal in triumph. At this stage of the proceedings, the colonel of the regiment stationed at Friedberg entered the court, and seated himself by the side of the local magistrate. He seemed disposed to adopt a summary course of proceeding, and talked of shooting me without any ceremony. I must do the commissioner the justice to say that he, on every occasion, interposed to check the violence of his coadjutor. Both, however, concurred in the opinion, that I was neither more nor less than a Hungarian spy, and appealed from the passport, which declared me to be an English advocate, to what they were pleased to call my military aspect and bearing, and even to the dress I then wore. At length, a suggestion of the commissioner's, that I should be sent off under escort to Grätz, in order that the pleasure of the Imperial Government might be taken as to my fate, prevailed; and I was removed to the den in which I was destined to pass the night, and remain until one o'clock the next day. The place was about six feet square, and dismal enough to make a dog howl. The money I carried on my person had been seized; no food was provided, and a dirty earthenware pot of water was placed at such a distance from without the bars of the cage that it could not be reached. I passed as good a night as the litter of dirty straw provided for me would permit, and at one o'clock was summoned again to appear before the commissioner. I was once more searched. No inquiry was made as to whether I had tasted food for the last twenty-four hours, and however faint and weary, I was myself too much absorbed at the possible discovery of the gaiters, to ask for any. Intense as was the heat at midday, I was brought out to march at once to Hartberg, between a file of soldiers with fixed bayonets. And well did the soldiers fulfil their brutal mission. Not a drop of wine or water was I permitted to taste during the first stage of eight miles, and it was not until we had reached the next stage (the escort, it may be mentioned, was relieved every eight miles) that I was permitted a moment's refreshment. In vain I adduced the insufficiency of the food so dearly paid for; I was forbidden any further rest, and when in a state of exhaustion I attempted to snatch a brief respite on a bank by the road-side, I was struck by the escort with the butt-end of their muskets, and experienced every kind of evasion at the next post, when I endeavoured to obtain the name of the principal offender. The third party, composed like the preceding of savage Croats, fitting agents of such a government, behaved, if possible, more brutally still, and actually proceeded so far as to prick me with their bayonets, for the purpose of expediting my movements, when I suddenly started up, and pointing to my heart, intimated that they might run me through, but that I neither could nor would then move. Seeing that I was determined, they desisted from their persecution, and, sitting down by my side, lit their pipes. It needed the soothing influence of the weed to tame their baffled passions, and I watched with some interest its slow but sure effects on their swarthy fiend-like countenances. A subsequent brutal proceeding of these men so exasperated me, that for an instant I canvassed in my mind the chances I should incur were I to seize the bayonet of the man before me, and transfix him in my rear. I was saved, however, from a very dangerous, but I feel not an altogether impracticable attempt, by the approach of two officers, to whom I repeated in broken German the brutal treatment I had experienced. * * At Hartberg I was left for some hours in the barrack-yard among the soldiers, without refreshment, until a senior officer, less devoid of humanity than the others, happening to be passing, and seeing that I was half insensible, ordered my removal to a bed. * * After supper I was shown into my apartment, and now I foresaw that the real crisis of peril was at hand. I had hitherto been couched on straw, and had therefore remained in my clothes: now, however, it became necessary to disrobe. Fortunately, the commissioner was not present while I was getting into bed, and that little accident, together with the circumstance of the sentinel's being aware of my having been previously several times searched, it was, which offered me a ray of hope at this forlorn moment. I resolved, therefore, to seize every opportunity that an imperturbable coolness could alone furnish me with for carrying out my designs. Taking off the dreaded gaiters with the same *sang froid* with which I had taken off my coat, I contrived, by a little sleight of hand, in getting into bed, to whip them under it. Five minutes afterwards the commissioner entered the room, and inquired of the guard whether they had perceived anything of a suspicious tendency, and whether I had attempted concealment in any shape. They replied that I had divested myself of everything in front of them without hesitation, and that there was nothing to warrant a remark. So the commissioner retired, first giving orders, at my request, that the lights should be extinguished, and the sentinels should remain outside. Neither of these instructions were, for some reason or other, obeyed; and if I contrived to doze for a few minutes, the gleam of the pale moonbeams piercing through the windows, and lighting up the soldiers' bayonets, effectually dissipated sleep. The soldiers, too, dozed once or twice for a few moments during the night, till, disturbed from some cause or other, they would suddenly start up, as if under the impression that I was making my escape. Then for an hour or two they would direct their glistening orbs upon the spot where I lay, as they thought asleep, watching my very breath. During one of the occasions on which I found them napping in this manner, I contrived to draw up the gaiters from their concealment under the bed, and to place them on the chair alongside of my other garments. As soon as it was light I rose, put on every article of apparel in the same open manner that I had divested myself of it on the night previous. As soon as the commissioner arrived, he put the same questions as before to the sentinels, and they gave a similar answer. I now began to breathe more freely. After breakfast the commissioner conducted me to a landau in waiting at the door, and gave orders to the two Italian corporals, my conductors, that I should be driven to Grätz."

From Grätz, Mr. Pridham was sent back to Vienna:—and after the usual delays in all Austrian police cases, he was sent under escort into Bavaria. There he obtained a new passport in a false name,—thence, crossed the Tyrol,—descended into Northern Italy,—skirted the Adriatic to Trieste,—sailed from that city to Corfu,—and got thence through Janina and Belgrade to Viddin, where he found Kossuth and the generals of the insurrection. Of the great Magyar he has little that is novel to relate:—but he reports a curious conversation held with Bem, in which that extraordinary tactician developed his theory of the war and his reasons for its ultimate failure. This conversation will no doubt be of interest for military readers,—but it is hardly suited for our pacific columns. What follows on the composition and *esprit du corps* of the Austrian army is worthy of attention.—

"Since the death of the gallant Digby, I am happy to say Austria no longer counts an English officer in her service. The untimely fate of that noble youth has been lamented alike by friend and foe. In a sharp *rencontre* at some outpost the Austrians had proved victorious, and were reluctant to give quarter to their Hungarian prisoners. Digby had interposed to rescue them from death, and the better to insure his generous mediation, entered an apartment along with them. Meanwhile the fortune of the day had been retrieved by the Magyars. In ignorance of his humane intervention, they approached the place and demanded the surrender of Digby. On refusing to give up his sword, he was shot on the spot. When they had entered the room, and heard the tale of his late generous interposition, the Magyars burst into tears, and kissing the prostrate corpse, buried it with the usual military honours. Including the Italians, we shall find that the foreign officers in the Austrian service somewhat surpass, both by their number and respective rank, those of native extraction; if, then, we further subtract the Servians, the Croatians, the Dalmatians, the Hungarians, and the Bohemians—or, in a word, the people less essentially Germanized—we shall find a very small residuum representing the interests of Austria proper. To glance for a moment at the superior officers.—Radetzky is a Bohemian; Nugent, an Irishman; Welden, a Bavarian; Haynau, a Hessian; D'Aspré, a Neapolitan; Schlick, a Hanoverian; and so forth. The same peculiarity is even still more palpable in the navy; the admiral is a Dane, and the major part of the officers are Italians, Illyrians, or Dalmatians. The people of the German provinces, wherein I include the Tyrol, Moravia, Styria, and Carinthia, had recently remonstrated against this dangerous policy, and had striven to counteract it. In this manner, the seeds of disunion were beginning to be sown in the entire of the corps of officers, and jealousy and suspicion already promised to usurp the seat of the old freemasonry."

Leaving the refugees to their sad lot, Mr. Pridham crossed the Danube, visited Pesth and Presburg, and even ventured to Vienna. In that city, as might have been expected, he was recognized by the police. A detention of some days, in a foul dungeon, for which they made him pay a heavy rental, followed:—and he was then sent off to Trieste under a threat of twenty years' imprisonment should he ever again enter the Austrian dominions.

He subsequently sailed to Athens, Smyrna, and Constantinople in the interests of his "correspondence," and enriched his narrative with descriptions of those celebrated cities.—Mr. Pridham is evidently a young writer. He possesses information and literary ability,—but his pages are often disfigured by explosions of bombastic sentiment. When time shall have a little sobered his style, we shall be glad to meet with more of his life-like and graphic sketches.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

THE Christmas Gift-Book—in spite of all the "slings and arrows" launched at it by scholars and transcendentalists,—shows a determined spirit of vitality. It is true that most of the old Annuals are dead and buried,—and the rest may be described as fast dying:—yet, for all that, we are not rid of the plague—or the pleasure—as may be. The Americans, as we saw only a week since, are taking the field in strength;—while in England, in spite of preachers and teachers, Pre-Raphaelite inculcations and Arundel Society antiquarianisms, not only are Gift-books of new pattern laid before us with every new November, but some of those commenced since the Annual began its decline appear so well to have answered the purposes of their projectors as to be continued with increased care and spirit;—which means increased capital embarked in their decoration.

Mr. W. H. Bartlett gives us this season, for example, another of his handsome and agreeable volumes, under the title of *Footsteps of Our Lord*

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and his Apostles in Syria, Greece and Italy: a Succession of Visits to the Scenes of New Testament Narrative.—Among the most attractive subjects engraved with high finish, are, the views of Rhodes, 'The Spot where Paul stood,' 'The Rock of Corinth,' and 'The Tomb of Lazarus at Bethany.' 'The Forum at Rome' is less happily treated; but it requires powers nothing less consummate than those of a Turner and a Goodall in combination to do justice to that extraordinary scene within the compass of a vignette. By woy of commendatory specimen of the letter-press, we cannot do better than exhibit the interior of the Convent at Rhodes, in which Mr. Bartlett was a sojourner.—

"This convent, of which I was now on inmate, was the sole relic of the once powerful Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. It was a massive stone edifice, which would have accommodated a large body of friars, but was then inhabited but by three, who were understood to be in a state of extreme poverty. I was kindly and hospitably received, installed in a small monastic cell, with o trestle bed, and took my meals with the brethren in the conventual refectory. What with the pure oir and good living, I rapidly recovered my health. For poor as were my hosts, they contrived, after all, to subsist pretty comfortably in o place where forty eggs may be had for a piastre, value twopence-halfpenny, and where fine red wine was sold at a penny o bottle. To the superior of the convent it was impossible not to become attached. He was a Genoese, a venerable man of eighty. His figure was erect and noble, his eye undimmed, his countenance open and benevolent, while his long white beard, sweeping down to his girdle, conferred on him a most reverend appearance. At an age when the humon powers are generally sinking into decrepitude, he wos a pattern of industry, and a bright exemplar of Catholic devotion. My cell happened to be next to his; and the first thing audible in the morning was the old man repeating the prayers from his Breviary. He then arose, and ringing the convent bell, summoned his brethren to matins. As neither my health nor inclinations admitted of my joining in this exercise, I got up more leisurely, and met the brethren in the refectory to breakfast. This meal being over, I accompanied the superior to his private apartment, where were collected a number of children, to whom he imparted the rudiments of education. This, however, was far from being his sole occupation; for, while his pupils were conning their books, he employed himself in writing homilies, knitting stockings, curing tobacco, and carrying to completion the manufacture of the large wax candles required for the service of the church. His plan was to purchase a long wick, stiffened with a single layer of tallow, and, making the tallest of his little pupils hold it up over a basin, to then clothe it with successive coats, by basting it with melted wax, until it acquired the needful thickness; and the only symptoms of impatience I ever observed in the old man were when, by carelessness or fatigue, the little fellow selected for this office let fall on the ground the end of the candle, thus breaking it in the middle by the sudden jerk. Besides these multifarious duties, the old mon assisted in treading out the grapes, and making the convent wine; and so keen was his sight and steady his hand, that if he saw a bird flying across the garden, he would catch up his gun, and rarely fail to bring it down. As my strength returned, and I became enabled to accompany him in his pastoral walks, it was a pleasure to see the affectionate reverence with which he was everywhere greeted. The children ran to kiss his hand and receive his benediction; and on his entering the dwellings of his flock, they seemed to vie with one another in expressions of grateful regard. The venerable superior, as he told me, had not a single relative, save a nephew, of whom he had not heard for years. He had not a single earthly tie, yet he lived o life of cheerfulness and benevolence, useful ond beloved on earth, comforted and sustained by faith in a happy futurity. Would that every adherent of his creed were an imitator of his example!—The second friar, who held the important office of conventual cook, was o much younger man, and presented, in oll respects, a singular contrast to his superior. His gait was slouching and indolent, and his countenance habitually wore a half-cynical, half-sensual look. He was anything but devout, and would come yawning out of the chapel after matins, with bitter complaints as to the intolerable length of the service. Naturally keen and sarcastic, more shrewd than the superior, but totally destitute of the religious sentiment, he was compelled to pass his life in the, to him, tedious routine of services, which he evidently regarded with real, although unavowed contempt, and which had for him, as for many of his order, no sustaining or elevating influences. He hated this world without caring much for the next, and had always an ill-word for every one he met with. His only refuge from o vacant and discontented spirit was the savoury occupation in which he had become no mean proficient; but he was not averse to imparting a knowledge of his art, for under his auspices I learned to make very tolerable 'omelettes'; and so satisfied did he seem with my docility as a pupil, that he favoured me with some of his opinions, 'private and confidential,' one of which, I recollect, was, that 'we may contrive, if we must, to get along without wives, but without good living it is utterly impossible to exist.'—Such was the society in which I spent a month, partly to recover my health, and partly waiting for an opportunity of embarking for Syra. One day, while seated at the conventual board, there entered a personage, over fifty, tall, meagre, and perpendicular as a post; who, removing his broad-brimmed straw hat, gravely bowed to us, with all the formal politeness of the old school. The expression of his countenance, long and deeply furrowed by care, was rather sardonic, but wore, at the moment, what was intended for a fascinating smile. There was a touch of the *petit-maître*, too, in his dress and manner; it was evident he had been somewhat of a *beau* in his younger days. His trowsers, tight and somewhat shrunken, scarcely came down to his ankles; pink striped stockings succeeded, and shoes. His coat was short-waisted, with long thin tails to it; o huge watch-chain and seals dangled from his waistcoat; his bushy white whiskers seemed nearly to meet across his face, and his shirt collar cut up into the middle of his hollow cheeks. Entering at last upon his business, he explained that there was now a small vessel bound for Syra in the harbour, in which he had taken his passage; and learning that there was a Signor Inglese at the convent bound to the same port, he had come to propose that we should make our provisions for the voyage in common, in which, from his great experience, he should be able to save me some little trouble. I thanked him warmly; in fact, such a proposal was just the very thing I could have wished for. Next day, the wind being fair, and our preparations completed, I took leave of the cynical cook and worthy superior. Some years afterwards I happened to touch at the same port, and ran to the convent to greet my ancient acquaintances; but the grave had closed over the old man, and whither the other had wandered no one knew."

The above will sufficiently apprise all such as are looking out for Christmas books thot there is no falling off in Mr. Bartlett's efforts.

The Keepsake, Edited by Miss Power,—almost the last survivor and representative of the Annuol race,—appears this year in its accustomed form,—but with the marks on it of the old age that has overtaken the family to which it belongs. A fow names of literary "mark ond likelihood" mixed up with a sprinkling of aristocratic ones for show recall in the index pages the tradition of that vanished time when the Annual was a pleasant and eloquent feature of the Christmas season,—but these mere dry bones have lost the life of old. The soul of the Annual is gone. Barry Cornwall, Chorles Dickens and Mouckton Milnes are names that promise to justify a large amount of that peculiar alloy in which it has been the characteristic of 'The Keepsake' from the first to indulge, with a view to dividing the attraction between the formal and the intrinsic. But this year all things ara for the worse. The show-names are of less fashionable pattern than in former years, and the "fine gold" itself has "becoma dim."

The volume, however, is not without its features of interest;—and of these the most striking is, a paper by Mr. Thomas Carlyle, in which the obsurdity of his manner takes its highest and most ludicrous expression. Mr. Carlyle has made an extraordinary mistake in transporting his peculiar tricks of style on to a stage with which he is so wholly unfomiliar. We question if the youngest of his disciples can possibly take him for a conjuror as he exhibits here. By his means we think we can promise our readers some amusement out of 'The Keepsake.' A Latter-day Prophet at the Opera is a sight too novel to be overlooked by men in search of a sensation. A spasm or two must be transferred for the benefit of our readers. They will, no doubt, feel some curiosity to meet Mr. Corlyle curvetting on the verge of Tophet,—for such an abyss, and nothing better, does he conceive Her Majesty's Theatre to be. It does not much motter which of his postures we select.—

"Music is well said to be the speech of angels; in fact, nothing among the utterances allowed to man is felt to be so divine. It brings us near to the Infinite; we look for moments, across the cloudy elements, into the eternal Sea of Light, when song leads and inspires us. Serious nations, all nations that can still listen to the mandate of Nature, have prized song and music as the highest; as a vehicle for worship, for prophecy, ond for whatsoever in them was divine. Their singer was a *vates*, admitted to the council of the universe, friend of the gods, and choicest benefactor to man. Reader, it was octually so in Greek, in Roman, in Moslem, Christian, most of all in Old-Hebrew times: and if you look how it now is, you will find a change that should astonish you. Good Heavens, from a Psalm of Asaph to a seat at the London Opera in the Haymarket, what a road have men travelled! * * Of the Haymarket Opera my account, in fine, is this:—Lustres, candelabras, painting, gilding at discretion: a hall as of the Caliph Alraschid, or him that commanded the slaves of the Lamp; a hall as if fitted up by the genies, regardless of expense. Upholstery, and the outlay of human capital, could do no more. Artists too, as they are called, have been got together from the ends of the world, regardless likewise of expense, to do dancing and singing, some of them even geniuses in their craft. One singer in particular, called Coletti or some such name, seemed to me, by the cast of his face, by the tones of his voice, by his general bearing, so far as I could read it, to be a man of deep and ardent sensibilities, of delicate intuitions, just sympathies; originally an almost poetic soul, or man of *genius* as we term it; stamped by Nature as capable of far other work than squalling here, like o blind Samson, to make the Philistines sport! Nay, all of them had aptitudes, perhaps of a distinguished kind; and must, by their own and other people's labour, have got o training equal or superior in toilsomeness, earnest assiduity, and patient travail, to what breeds men to the most arduous trades. I speak not of kings' grandees, or the like show-figures; but few soldiers, judges, men of letters, can have had such pains taken with them. The very ballet-girls, with their muslin saucers round them, were perhaps little short of miraculous; whirling and spinning there in strange mad vortexes, and then suddenly fixing themselves motionless, each upon her left or right great-toe, with the other leg stretched out at an ongle of ninety degrees;—as if you had suddenly pricked into the floor, by one of their points, a pair, or rather a multitudinous cohort, of mad restlessly jumping and clipping scissors, and so bidden them rest, with opened blades, ond stand still, in the Devil's name! A truly notable motion; marvellous, almost miraculous, were not the people there so used to it. Motion peculiar to the Opera; perhaps the ugliest, and surely one of the most difficult, ever taught a female creature in this world. Nature abhors it; but Art does at least admit it to border on the impossible. One little Cerito, or Taglioni the Second, that night when I was there, went bounding from the floor as if she had been made of india-rubber, or filled with hydrogen gas, and inclined by positive levity to bolt through the ceiling: perhaps neither Semiramis nor Catherine the Second

had bred herself so carefully. Such talent, and such martyrdom of training, gathered from the four winds, was now here, to do its feat and be paid for it. Regardless of expense, indeed! The purse of Fortunatus seemed to have opened itself, and the divine art of Musical Sound and Rhythmic Motion was welcomed with an explosion of all the magnificences which the other arts, fine and coarse, could achieve. For you are to think of some Rossini or Bellini in the rear of it, too; to say nothing of the Stanfields, and hosts of scene-painters, machinists, engineers, enterprisers;—fit to have taken Gibraltar, written the History of England, or reduced Ireland into Industrial Regiments, had they so set their minds to it! Alas, and of all these notable or noticeable human talents, and excellent perseverances and energies, backed by mountains of wealth, and led by the divine art of Music and Rhythm vouchsafed by Heaven to them and us, what was to be the issue here this evening? An hour's amusement, not amusing either, but wearisome and dreary, to a high-dizened select Populace of male and female persons, who seemed to me not much worth amusing! Could any one have pealed into their hearts once, one true thought, and glimpse of self-vision: 'High-dizened, most expensive persons, Aristocracy so-called, or *Best* of the World, beware, beware what proofs you give of betterness and bestness!' And then the salutary pang of conscience in reply: 'A select Populace, with money in its purse, and drilled a little by the posture-maker: good Heavens! if that were what, here and everywhere in God's Creation, I *am*! And a world all dying because I am, and show myself to be, and to have long been, even that? John, the carriage, the carriage; swift! Let me go home in silence, to reflection, perhaps to sackcloth and ashes?' This, and not amusement, would have profited those high-dizened persons. * * Good sirs, surely I by no means expect the Opera will abolish itself this year or the next. But if you ask me, Why heroes are not born now, why heroisms are not done now? I will answer you, It is a world all calculated for strangling of heroisms. At every ingress into life, the genius of the world lies in wait for heroisms, and by seduction or compulsion unweariedly does its utmost to pervert them or extinguish them. Yes; to its Hells of sweating tailors, distressed needlewomen, and the like, this Opera of yours is the appropriate Heaven! Of a truth, if you will read a Psalm of Asaph till you understand it, and then come hither and hear the Rossini-and-Coletti Psalm, you will find the ages have altered a good deal. * * Nor do I wish all men to become Psalmist Asaphs and fanatic Hebrews. Far other is my wish; far other, and wider, is now my notion of this Universe. Populations of stern faces, stern as any Hebrew, but capable withal of bursting into inextinguishable laughter on occasion:—do you understand that new and better form of character? Laughter also, if it come from the heart, is a heavenly thing. But, at least and lowest, I would have you a Population abhorring phantasms;—abhorring *unveracity* in all things; and in your 'amusements,' which are voluntary and not compulsory things, abhorring it most impatiently of all."

From rhapsodizing like this, let us turn to one of two ghost stories told by Mr. Dickens, in a paper entitled 'To be read at Dusk.' The first of the two is the best, but it is too long for our purpose.—

"*I* took an engagement once (pursued the German courier) with an English gentleman, elderly and a bachelor, to travel through my country, my Fatherland. He was a merchant who traded with my country and knew the language, but who had never been there since he was a boy—as I judge, some sixty years before. His name was James, and he had a twin-brother John, also a bachelor. Between these brothers there was a great affection. They were in business together, at Goodman's Fields, but they did not live together. Mr. James dwelt in Poland Street, turning out of Oxford Street, London. Mr. John resided by Epping Forest. Mr. James and I were to start for Germany in about a week. The exact day depended on business. Mr. John came to Poland Street (where I was staying in the house), to pass that week with Mr. James. But, he said to his brother on the second day, 'I don't feel very well, James. There's not much the matter with me; but I think I am a little gouty. I'll go home and put myself under the care of my old housekeeper, who understands my ways. If I get quite better, I'll come back and see you before you go. If I don't feel well enough to resume my visit where I leave it off, why *you* will come and see *me* before you go.' Mr. James, of course, said he would, and they shook hands—both hands, as they always did—and Mr. John ordered out his old-fashioned chariot and rumbled home. It was on the second night after that—that is to say, the fourth in the week—when I was awoke out of my sound sleep by Mr. James coming into my bedroom in his flannel-gown, with a lighted candle. He sat upon the side of my bed, and looking at me, said: 'Wilhelm, I have reason to think I have got some strange illness upon me.' I then perceived that there was a very unusual expression in his face. 'Wilhelm,' said he, 'I am not afraid or ashamed to tell you, what I might be afraid or ashamed to tell another man. You come from a sensible country, where mysterious things are inquired into, and are not settled to have been weighed and measured—or to have been unweighable and unmeasurable—or in either case to have been completely disposed of, for all time—ever so many years ago. I have just now seen the phantom of my brother.' I confess (said the German courier) that it gave me a little tingling of the blood to hear it. 'I have just now seen,' Mr. James repeated, looking full at me, that I might see how collected he was, 'the phantom of my brother John. I was sitting up in bed, unable to sleep, when it came into my room, in a white dress, and, regarding me earnestly, passed up to the end of the room, glanced at some papers on my writing-desk, turned, and, still looking earnestly at me as it passed the bed, went out at the door. Now, I am not in the least mad, and am not in the least disposed to invest that phantom with any external existence out of myself. I think it is a warning to me that I am ill; and I think I had better be bled.' I got out of bed directly (said the German courier) and began to get on my clothes, begging him not to be alarmed, and telling him that I would go myself to the doctor. I was just ready, when we heard a loud knocking and ringing at the street door. My room being an attic at the back, and Mr. James's being the second-floor room in the front, we went down to his room, and put up the window, to see what was the matter. 'Is that Mr. James?' said a man below, falling back to the opposite side of the way to look up.—'It is,' said Mr. James; 'and you are my brother's man, Robert.'—'Yes, sir. I am sorry to say, sir, that Mr. John is ill. He is very bad, sir. It is even feared that he may be lying at the point of death. He wants to see you, sir. I have a chaise here. Pray come to him. Pray lose no time.'—Mr. James and I looked at one another. 'Wilhelm,' said he, 'this is strange. I wish you to come with me!' I helped him to dress, partly there and partly in the chaise; and no grass grew under the horses' iron shoes between Poland Street and the Forest. Now, mind! (said the German courier.) I went with Mr. James into his brother's room, and I saw and heard myself what follows. His brother lay upon his bed, at the upper end of a long bed-chamber. His old housekeeper was there, and others were there: I think three others were there, if not four, and they had been with him since early in the afternoon. He was in white, like the figure—necessarily so, because he had his night-dress on. He looked like the figure—necessarily so, because he looked earnestly at his brother when he saw him come into the room. But, when his brother reached the bed-side, he slowly raised himself in bed, and looking full upon him, said these words:—'JAMES, YOU HAVE SEEN ME BEFORE, TO-NIGHT—AND YOU KNOW IT!'—And so died!"

Before concluding, we should mention that one of the pleasantest papers in the volume is by Mrs. Newton Crosland,—and entitled 'Apropos of Lady Teazle.'

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Old Engagement: a Spinster's Story. By Julia Day.—Our remembrance of Miss Day's poems prepared us to expect from her a piece of good, highly-finished English writing in her prose tale,—whatever might be its subject-matter. 'The Old Engagement' does not altogether disappoint our expectations. The reserve shown by Miss Day in treating subjects of high emotion and deep passion (a reserve by no means to be confounded with the dryness of a cold and meagre nature) is in harmony with the touches of humour which enliven her pages on the present occasion. True feeling cannot be one-sided. The great personator of *Lady Macbeth*, Mrs. Siddons, was known to have lifted "her unequalled dramatic hands" in helpless mirth when "*John Gilpin*" was read aloud. The most consummate and comical of modern humourists, Hood, was as fond a haunter of the grave-side as *Hamlet* himself.—But, not to wander too far from Miss Day's story, 'The Old Engagement' is one of the most cheerful books that we ever read,—so full of cordiality and comfort and delicate little markings of character, that we were tempted on to the end without ever finding out by the way,—that story there is absolutely none! A lady of a certain age and a gentleman of very decided maturity, whose love-matters had in early life become entangled and broken off, meet again in a country house and make up the quarrel. This is absolutely all; since the wiles of a certain winsome widow, who seems desirous of marrying everybody, are never permitted to give us the least alarm,—so transparently are they masked—so outrageously are they over-sugared. Miss Day will do well to avoid such extreme simplicity—not to say slightness—of structure in her future tales. She can hardly, we presume, be unacquainted with Miss Austen's story of an old engagement,—and if so, cannot fail upon reflection to own the art with which in 'Persuasion' the novelist wrought up the suspense and perplexed the chances of explanation, still throughout preserving that exquisite and unforced truthfulness in which, as Scott was wont to say, she is without a rival. With a plan involving something of intricacy, developement, and surprise, we can imagine Miss Day writing a novel which of its quiet kind might become a classic,—so highly do we rate the style and the characters in her 'Old Engagement.'

History of the Conspiracy of Pontiac, and the War of the North American Tribes against the English Colonists after the Conquest of Canada. By Francis Parkman, jun. 2 vols.—This is one of the best written histories that has been produced by the recent literary talent of America. The American chief Pontiac, indeed, does not make so grand a figure as the author promises, and on the whole the attempt to make an interesting hero of this greatest of the Red Skins is a failure; but the narrative of the protracted and desultory wars with the Indians, by which the Anglo-Saxon fathers of the present American nation had to make good every mile of their advance into that amazing country which now teems with the evidences of civilization, is of interest in itself and is admirably conducted. Here we have, in the form of authentic and detailed record, exactly such incidents as make the materials in the most delightful of Cooper's novels. The only fault we have to find with the author is, that his style is often too grandiose for his subject. The balanced cadence and verbal ornateness of some of his sentences seem out of keeping with the rough set of beings whose forest life he is describing. We do not object so much to his elaborate descriptions of forest scenery, which are sometimes fine to the verge of poetry, as to his want of the refreshing homeliness of style which is appropriate in describing actions of minor historic importance done amid such scenes. Pontiac was not a Pericles,—and his history cannot be told in Attic periods. But this fault proceeds from what is a merit in the writer—extreme care to write from beginning to end as well as possible; and if Mr. Parkman should enter on higher and more civilized fields of historic research, this quality will doubtless contribute to the value of his compositions.

A Guide to Advertisers; containing Hints to Advertisers, Rules for Advertising, and Classified Lists of the London and Provincial Journals, with the Character and Amount of their Circulation, &c. By an Advertiser.—A work on the plan of this

little treatise is a want often felt,—since almost every person has at times to advertise his wares, his wishes, or his services. But to produce a decently correct work on the subject—perfect neutrality being assumed at the outset—would not be an easy task. The circulation of the various journals, where it is not given in the Stamp Returns, is difficult to obtain accurately in most cases, —in some, we should think, impossible. The present treatise is worse than useless, as it altogether misleads its reader for want of this sort of information. Where Government furnishes the figures, they may be correctly given; but in the case of the unstamped journals, and of those in which the use of stamps is a minor incident, the figures are all wrong,—curiously wrong in many instances. Not only are the absolute facts wanting here as regards extent of circulation and so forth,—but even the relative facts. In some instances the stamped edition is given in such a way as to leave the reader who may have no better information on the subject to suppose that it constitutes the entire impression; in other instances the stamped and unstamped editions are added together in such a manner as entirely to falsify the place of particular journals in the series. The very principles laid down as the basis of the classifications in this little volume are thus violated in the classifications themselves,—and the advertiser who may consult its pages is grievously misled by the very authority that assumes to be his "Guide."

Demosthenes, the Oration for the Crown. Translated into English by the Rev. J. P. Norris, M.A. —Mr. Norris has here supplied the English reader with a translation admirably representing both the sense and the style of the original. What he has written is just what we may imagine Demosthenes would have said had he been an Englishman of the present day. For the sake of those who are not familiar with the antiquities and history of Greece, we wish a few explanatory notes had been given.

The Book of Nature. By Friedrich Schoedler. Translated by Henry Medlock.—Schoedler's 'Buch der Natur' is a well-known school-book in Germany, —and this is the first part of a translation of the work into English. It embraces a very general introduction to the natural sciences,—including physics, astronomy, chemistry, mineralogy, geology, botany, zoology, and physiology. It would be too much to expect that even an outline should be given by one hand of all these subjects with equal merit. The part which has already been translated by Mr. Medlock—including the physical sciences and chemistry—is undoubtedly the best part of the original volume. In the absence of any more comprehensive general outline, the translation will be found useful in this country under the same circumstances as the original work in Germany.

Outlines of the History of the English Language. By George L. Craik.—As Professor of History and English Literature at Queen's College, Belfast, it has devolved on Mr. Craik to deliver a course of lectures upon the English language. The present publication is an abstract of part of these lectures. It contains a series of about twenty leading propositions, printed in larger type, which exhibit in a connected form the principal facts relating to the history and composition of our language. These propositions are illustrated, confirmed and enlarged by the statements appended to each in the body of the work. About a third of the volume is devoted to extracts from English writings of different ages, so as to exhibit the gradual advances made in the language from the Saxon period to the present time. The earlier specimens are translated in full, and all obsolete expressions in those of a later date are explained. Combined with what has gone before, these specimens—which are all dated—give an excellent idea of the various changes that have taken place in the English language. Mr. Craik divides the history into four periods:—the Semi-Saxon, from A.D. 1066 to 1272; the Early English, from A.D. 1272 to 1377; the Middle English, from A.D. 1377 to 1558; and the Modern English, from A.D. 1558 to the present time. His work might be made a very useful text-book wherever English is critically studied, and may serve as an introduction to the investigations of comparative grammar and ethnology.

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Saunders's Official Map of Australian Gold Country, 2s. in cover.
Skyring's Builder's Price-Book, 1852, 8vo. 4s. swd.
Spencer on the Art of Playing the Pianoforte, 1s. cl. swd. (Weale.)
Spiritual Alchemy, by Author of 'Hearts in Mortmain,' &c. 21s. cl.
Stone's (S.) The Justice's Pocket Manual, 5th edit. 12mo. 9s. 6d.
Symes's (J.) Principles of Surgery, Supplement to, 8vo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Tayler's (C. B.) The Angel's Song, 2nd edit. fc. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Thomson's Exposition of the Gospel of St. Luke, Vol. 3, 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Thornton's (E.) History of British Empire in India, 6 vols. 2l. 8s.
Traveller's Library, 'Eothen,' new edit. 2 parts, sq. 1s. each. swd.
Virgil's Æneid, Books 1 to 6, English Notes, by Galbraith, 12mo. 6s. 6d. bd.; Books 1 to 12, English Notes, by Galbraith, 10s. 6d.
Vlieland's (J. N.) Practical Course of German Language, 12mo. 5s.
Ward's (R. A.) Treatise on Investments, 12mo. 6s. cl.
Williams's (Rev. D.) Preceptor's Assistant, new edit. 12mo. 2s. bd.

OUR MUSEUMS, THEIR DESIDERATA AND ARRANGEMENT.

THE actual erection at the present time of a new general depository of our national Records, the proposed erection of a new National Gallery, (as it has been the fashion to term our collection of paintings), and the discussions now taking place concerning the establishment of a great Industrial Museum, render a little deliberation necessary, firstly, with respect to our collections, their desiderata, and their present arrangement, and secondly, with a view to their more consistent, and consequently more serviceable, disposition.

With but little aid from Government, our national collections of Art and nature have been formed either by the liberality of noble or rich donors, or by the zeal of officers attached to our public institutions,—who have accordingly laboured to render their own peculiar departments perfect, without reference to the general collection and its arrangement. The British Museum, true to the legitimate English definition of the word, was established by Sir Hans Sloane and his successors as a "repository of learned curiosities," including specimens of the three great branches of natural history (zoology, botany and mineralogy), Fine Arts, ethnography, and rare books and manuscripts; and for a time a single establishment was sufficient for the reception of the national collection of these different kinds of "learned curiosities." The Armoury in the Tower, as well as the royal collection of animals kept in the same fortress, formed no part of the collections to which I have above referred, although, strictly speaking, the collection of arms as objects of antiquity ought to form a portion of the general ethnographical collection of the country. Our "Museum," therefore, up to a very recent period, has received within its walls those classes of objects which in Paris constitute the three establishments of the Louvre, the Bibliothèque and the Jardin des Plantes,—to say nothing of the Hôtel de Cluny, the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers.

Year by year our repository of learned curiosities has gone on increasing; although, as above suggested, its different departments have varied in a very great degree in their development. The legal requirement that a copy of every published book should be presented to the British Museum independent of purchases has swollen the Printed Book Department to an enormous extent. The great additions to the collection of Manuscripts have almost rendered it a separate department, so that it has become questionable whether it would not be more advantageous for the interests of literature in general that it should be united with the great body of Manuscripts in the custody of the Master of the Rolls.

Turning next to the Fine Arts, we find that, until very recently, our national collection contained, in the department of Painting, but a few old and valuable portraits at the British Museum, whilst our Sculpture gallery was enriched with several fine classical series. Many grand additions have been made to the former department, and our National Gallery of Paintings (including the Dulwich and Hampton Court collections) may now boast of possessing some of the finest *chefs-d'œuvre* in the world,—but, as a collection illustrating the history of Art from the earliest period, and showing its ramification into the different schools, it can hardly be said to be even in its infancy,—nor does there appear on the part of its directors any intention to supply the deficiencies, as many opportunities have occurred where they might have secured specimens of the Byzantine and early Italian or German schools. In like manner, our gallery of Sculpture, although now rich in Egyptian, Roman, Grecian, Lycian, and Babylonian Art, is entirely destitute of specimens executed during the last sixteen hundred years. With respect to the national collections of Natural History, similar disparity has occurred in their formation; for whilst our collections of preserved specimens of the Animal Kingdom have increased, until we possess, perhaps, the finest in the world, and our national collection of Minerals is also very rich, our specimens of the Vegetable Kingdom increased but little until Sir W. Hooker proved that a series of vegetable productions and their appliances might be rendered one of the most interesting departments in a national "repository of learned curiosities." In like manner the establishment of the Economic Museum of Mineralogy and Geology demonstrated the same fact as regards the Mineral Kingdom. We still, however, possess no collection of the economic applications of the Animal Kingdom;*—and this, it is to be hoped, will form one of the objects in the intended Industrial Museum.

In the remaining great branch of "learned curiosities," that of Ethnography, including Archæology in its more limited sense, our national collections (to our disgrace, as the first maritime nation in the world, be it spoken) are extremely deficient;—in fact, many a second-rate town on the Continent possesses a finer collection, whilst the national museums of Denmark and Holland are pre-eminently rich in this branch. It is, in fact, quite lamentable to think how many tribes first visited by our ships have now either entirely disappeared from the human race, or have so modified their manners and customs as to render it impossible now to obtain specimens of their industrial arts in their aboriginal state. Thanks to our missionaries and naval officers, some slight collections have been formed,—and the comparatively private museums of the United Service Club and of the Missionary establishment in Moorfields, possess

* The fine Museum of Comparative Anatomy of the College of Surgeons is so special as not to enter in a general arrangement of our "learned curiosities."

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the only records of many tribes of which we have now only a traditional or written knowledge. To a small extent, also, the East India Company have formed a Museum of the Ethnography of Hindústan. Even of the ethnography of our own country, it is only during the present year that a first step has been taken to form an Exhibition.

As the germ of a Great Industrial Museum, mention ought also here to be made of the collection of Models formed by the Society of Arts, whilst the Museum at Woolwich has constituted the natural depository of the models of our warlike and maritime genius.

Such is a hasty glance over our collections of "learned curiosities" and their desiderata,—and now, although it is in vain to hope for a general re-arrangement of the whole,—so as to render it consistent with their subjects, and thus more convenient and practically useful, by bringing the allied portions together,—the time *is* come when this ought to be to a certain extent attempted. In the first place, the British Museum ought (contrary to the opinion of those persons who think the term applicable only to a collection of the Fine Arts) to be what its name implies,—and to effect this, the library of Printed Books ought to be removed to a separate establishment,—the MSS. added to the great depository of other records at the Rolls, and the Fine Arts department (that is, the Sculptures and the few Paintings) removed to the National Gallery. This would leave to the British Museum the Natural History and the Ethnographical departments;—and even in such case there would be but little room to spare, since the densely crowded state of the Zoological galleries would require more than twice their present space to do justice to their contents;—besides, it would be far more consistent that the Economical Museums of Mineralogy in Piccadilly and of Botany at Kew should be deposited under the same roof as the Zoological. Mineralogical, and Botanical collections at present at the British Museum,—together, also, with the proposed Economical Museum of Zoological Products. Moreover, in addition to the specimens of animals preserved on the old formal plan, the exhibitions of Hancock and Planquet in the Crystal Palace have shown that more real Natural History can be taught by a few groups of animals arranged in accordance with their natural habits, than by whole rows of single specimens:—hence it is to be hoped that a few groups, illustrating the chief families (such, for instance, as that of the Felidæ, lately presented to the Ipswich Museum), will be added to the Zoological series in the British Museum.

In addition to Natural History, the Ethnographical series ought also to find its place in the British Museum, illustrating as it does in fact the natural history of the *genus* Homo just as we would wish to see every other *genus* or family of animals illustrated,—namely, by its manners and habits. With such an arrangement, it may seem at first sight wrong to separate the Egyptian Sculptures from the other objects in the saloon in the western gallery of the British Museum; but, until one great museum of Fine Arts and Ethnology, like the Louvre, is erected, such a separation is necessary, in order to preserve a consistent arrangement of our collections. How far the removal of the Etruscan Vases and Bronzes, Coins and Medals (all of which are to a certain extent ethnographical articles), and the Collection of Engravings, to the new National Gallery is advisable, must be left for future determination.

With these additions the British Museum would be found, even at present, not too much crowded; whilst the anomaly of a distinct museum of Mineralogy and of Botany at the British Museum, of Economic Mineralogy in another place, and of Economic Botany in a third, would be avoided. It may, indeed, be said, that the latter collection ought to be kept in connexion with the living plants, and so retained at Kew, apart from the botanical collection in the British Museum; but with equal justice it might be said, that the collection of preserved animals ought to be given over to the Zoological Society's museum in the Regent's Park.

It remains only to add a few words on the manifest disadvantage of keeping far apart, or at a distance from London, such important Museums as those of Economical Mineralogy and Botany,—in fact, these, if not united with the collections of Animals, Plants, and Minerals at the British Museum, seem naturally to constitute portions of the Great Industrial Museum which ought to result from the Industrial Exhibition of 1851. Indeed, when we see it announced that many of the most interesting objects in the series of Vegetable and Mineral products, and their appliances, have been already secured for the Museums of Piccadilly and Kew, we cannot help considering that they have been, as it were, abstracted from that great Museum of Industrial Art which the past Exhibition has taught us to be so necessary to the progress of our Arts and Manufactures.

As, however, it is perhaps now beyond a probability, that the Economic Museum of Mineralogy will be given up as a distinct establishment, and carried *to* the Birtish Museum, and as it is perhaps equally improbable that the Library will be removed *from* its present situation, we must be content to put up with the present arrangement of these two great departments,—one occupying the place which far more consistently belongs to the other.

We next turn to our Fine Art collections; and as it is admitted that a new National Gallery is necessary, let no niggardly feeling interfere to prevent the establishment being rendered worthy of the country and of the treasures which it possesses. The state of the British Museum imperatively demands the removal of part of its contents, in order that justice may be done to the rest;—and as the union of Sculpture with Painting is perfectly consistent, let us hope to have our collection of these two sister Arts brought into one great establishment, and arranged chronologically and according to the different countries and schools, to which let us also hope that some attempt to establish a Museum of Architecture will be added. I am aware that it has been proposed to remove the Natural History collection from the British Museum; but by so doing we must either restrict the Museum to the Library alone, or unite with it the Sculptures, which would be a very inconsistent arrangement; or keep the Sculptures where they are, and unite with them our Paintings, which experience has already shown would be destructive to the latter, resulting from the impurities of the atmosphere of our metropolis. J. O. W.

Hammersmith, Nov. 15.

MR. COLLIER'S PAPERS ON SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

In the report of the proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries at their meeting of the 5th of June last [see *Athen.* No. 1233, p. 636], it is related that Mr. Collier read a third paper 'On a Number of Curious and Important Points omitted in all the Biographies of Sir Walter Raleigh:'—when he showed, from a comparison of his own copy of the 'Discovery of El Dorado' printed in 1596 with others bearing the same date, that this work was twice printed the same year,—a circumstance, he said, not hitherto noted by anybody.

This assertion rests on an error:—for in the introduction preceding the reprint of 'The Discovery of the Empire of Guiana' which I edited for the Hakluyt Society in 1848, I observe, at page lxv,—"The general belief that during Raleigh's lifetime only one edition of his voyage was separately published, is erroneous,—as on a recent comparison of two copies bearing the date of 1596, we have observed some typographical differences." The differences exist, as I explain in a note, in the ornamental letters, the initials of Sir Walter Raleigh (W. R.) at the end of his Preface and Address to the Reader, and the catchword at the end of the pages.

I am sorry that it is not within my reach to make myself more in detail acquainted with Mr. Collier's Papers;—which are no doubt of high importance to all who take an interest in one of the most remarkable characters that the Elizabethan age produced. I do not know, therefore, whether he had been able to ascertain to what daughter of his Sir Walter alludes in the letter which he addressed to Lady Raleigh on the occasion of his resolving to commit suicide. Although I mention the circumstance in my Introduction (page xliii), I have not been able to procure a clue.

The distance at which I live from England will, I trust, be a sufficient apology for the late appearance of these remarks.

ROBERT H. SCHOMBURGK.

Santo Domingo, Oct. 18th.

DR. LARDNER AND ATLANTIC STEAM NAVIGATION.

In a new edition of Dr. Lardner's work on the Steam Engine which has just appeared, a recapitulation is given of the leading points in the controversy on the subject of Atlantic Steam Navigation. As the question is thus brought once more before the public,—as most erroneous impressions are prevalent respecting it,—and as I am able from my personal knowledge to state the real facts of the case,—I trust you will afford me sufficient space in your columns to set the matter correctly before the public.

Most persons suppose that Dr. Lardner declared the passage of the Atlantic by a steam vessel to be a physical impossibility; and if an example be wanted to show how far the achievements of physical science may outrun the anticipations of scientific authorities, Dr. Lardner's supposed declaration is usually cited as a case in point. It happens, however, that Dr. Lardner entertained no such opinion as that usually imputed to him, but in fact maintained the very opposite. About the time of the meeting of the British Association in Bristol in 1837, being then engaged in superintending the construction of the largest steam vessels of that day—the Don Juan, the Braganza, and the Tagus, belonging to the Peninsular Company—I was applied to by Dr. Lardner to ascertain my views respecting the prospects of Atlantic Steam Navigation, and I then went along with him carefully into the question.

It was of course obvious to us both that for a steam vessel to cross the Atlantic was perfectly possible. In fact, at least two steam vessels—the Savannah and the Curaçoa—had crossed it already. And although it was doubtful whether any steam vessel of that day could carry coal enough to maintain the full power of steam during the whole voyage, it was clear nevertheless that any seaworthy steamer could accomplish the voyage by adopting one of two alternatives. She might either proceed under *full* steam as far as her coals would last, and then conclude the voyage under sails,—or she might pass through the whole distance under partial steam, working the engines with only a *portion* of their power, as had been repeatedly done by the Medea and other steam vessels when sailing with the fleet. It was obvious to every one, indeed, that the capability of a steam vessel to carry coal for an Atlantic voyage hinged on the amount of power put into her,—or, in other words, it was a question of the proportion of power to tonnage; so that by making the hull of the vessel very large, and the engines relatively small, a sufficient capacity for coal to enable the engines to be worked throughout the voyage would certainly be obtained. This abstract question however was not the one which engaged the attention of the public, or on which it was necessary for Dr. Lardner to deliver any opinion. But three distinct projects were at that time before the public proposing to connect England with New York by steam vessels of large tonnage and power: and the problem presented for resolution was, whether these undertakings—unassisted as they were by a Government grant, and relying wholly on the returns from goods and passengers—would probably be successful. Dr. Lardner's opinion was that they would *not*,—and in that opinion I concurred. No one was able to answer Dr. Lardner's arguments, but they were drowned by clamour; and he was represented as having given utterance to an absurdity, in order that the force of his reasonings might be the more effectually concealed.

For the moment this expedient succeeded. The three schemes which had London, Liverpool and Bristol as their European termini were, contrary to Dr. Lardner's recommendation, established and

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tried. The result is exhibited in the following list, which shows the eventual fate of the vessels employed.—

Sirius	Withdrawn.
Royal William	Withdrawn.
Great Liverpool	Sold.
United States	Sold.
British Queen	Sold.
President	Lost.
Great Western	Sold.
Great Britain	Sold.

In fact, the whole of the enterprises condemned by Dr. Lardner have miscarried, and have been attended with loss and disappointment to all concerned.

The Cunard and American lines of packets being supported by large Government subventions, of course do not come under the conditions which Dr. Lardner had to consider:—which were those of an enterprise subsisting only on its own returns. Nor had his prognostications any reference to the class of auxiliary screw vessels now plying across the Atlantic:—that class of vessels having been unknown in 1836. His remarks had reference exclusively to paddle vessels with full power. And since the whole of the vessels of that class, except those supported by extraneous aid, have been driven from the field, and since the Cunard line, notwithstanding the great ability with which it is conducted, requires a Government contribution of 145,000*l.* a-year to enable it to be carried on, it appears certain that the doctrines which Dr. Lardner promulgated in 1836 and 1837 are irrefragable still,—notwithstanding the improvements which have since taken place in steam navigation. One by one the schemes which he condemned have exploded. No one would now think of re-constructing them. Who then shall say that his anticipations have not been borne out by the result?—I am, &c. JOHN BOURNE, C.E.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

MORE than fifteen months ago, an act was passed against burials within the metropolis. That act was intended to meet an evil of the grossest kind. It was loudly called for by the public—and was carried by unusually large majorities in both Houses. Yet its provisions up to this time have not been enforced. The putrid mounds in Drury Lane—in Lambeth Marsh—in Tothill Fields—continue to be opened daily, to the serious loss of health and life. The public has felt itself completely mystified in the matter. But the secret, such as it is, of this strange inactivity is at last out. On Tuesday, a deputation, headed by the Bishop of London, waited on Lord John Russell and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to impress on them a warmer sense of the growing impatience out of doors with their slow and incomprehensible proceedings. The excuse offered by the two ministers was—the unexpected and utter failure of their bill! Prepared by themselves—placed for execution in the hands of men selected by themselves,—when it came to be applied, the bill was found to contain no money clause! Their agents were to fight the battle, but there were no sinews of war. Parliament had cast them off. The country was not responsible for their outlays. They had no means of their own. It is true, the money market was open to them, as it is to every other class of speculators,—but the money-lenders asked for good securities, and they were not forthcoming. Therefore, nothing, or next to nothing, has been done. Towards the close of last session, the Board of Health stole a few moments from its troubles about sinks, sewers, water-pipes, tanks, dust carts, sweeping machines, and other scavengery, to inform Ministers that their powers were inadequate—that their credit was bad on the Exchange—and that in order to the due discharge of their duties they must be invested with larger powers, and have a right given them to tax all London interments whether in public or in private cemeteries for the means of income! The Chancellor of the Exchequer rather hesitated to present a bill for that purpose to the House,—and took advantage of the recess to think more about it. He is still thinking, as he says. All that the deputation could learn from the two ministers was, that Government will be prepared to explain its intentions in the coming session.

The search for the missing Arctic Expedition to the north of Behring's Straits, which we advocated last week, is, we learn, intended to be carried into effect if sufficient funds can be raised for the purpose.—The projector, Capt. Beatson, proposes to fit out "a small but efficient screw steamer, manned by twenty-five or thirty men, and provisioned for five years, to enter the Arctic Sea by Behring's Straits, and keeping to the north-west, to run along shore as close as practicable, examining every part likely to be visited by any retreating parties from Sir John Franklin's ships:—then, to strike off for the islands of New Siberia,—where, after having searched the northern and eastern parts, to push to the eastward, to the northward of a chain of islands that were supposed to extend from Melville Island to longitude 140° or 150° west, in which latitude it is anticipated that the navigation will be comparatively clear, to winter as far east as possible, and during the early spring examine by the sledges around the winter quarters, and the next year again push eastward as before." —Capt. Beatson estimates that about 4,000*l.* in addition to the amount found by the promoter will suffice to fit out the Expedition:—which should leave England before the end of January next. We observe some eminent Arctic authorities among Capt. Beatson's supporters.

Coin-collectors have been attracted to Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's rooms by an unusual collection of objects for sale:—a mass of Mint papers belonging to the late Mr. Stanesby Alchorne, the King's Assay Master,—including the original 'Register-Book of Designs' by John Croker, chief engraver at the Mint in the reigns of Queen Anne and King George the First; a mass of curious papers connected with Thomas Simon and his works; some interesting details relative to the Aberystwith Mint known (by name at least) to the student of English history in the reign of Charles the First; and certain waifs of information not to be neglected by the historian of medallic art in this country. The volume of Croker's designs contained under each drawing a certificate of approval in the handwriting of Sir Isaac Newton. The designs are one and all extremely neat in point of drawing,—and, like the coins and medals of the artist, are more remarkable for beauty of execution than for any originality or happy arrangement in design. This interesting volume was bought by Sir F. Madden for the British Museum, for the sum of 40*l.* We wish we could add that even the remainder of the more valuable MSS. had found a fitting locality in the same quarter. They were, however, sadly dispersed;—and it is feared that some of the new information about Simon which we observed during a cursory inspection of the papers will be again lost to the public.—At the same sale the Duplicate of the original Standard Troy Pound made for the Commission appointed by the House of Commons in 1758 to adjust the standard of weight was sold for 17*l.*, and purchased by the Government. The original was destroyed with the Houses of Parliament, in 1834.

From Philadelphia we hear of the death of a man of science, Mr. R. C. Taylor, on the 26th of October, aged 62. Mr. Taylor emigrated in the year 1830, being previously well known as a Fellow both of the Antiquarian and of the Geological Societies. He had published a work of great care and research while resident in his native county, Norfolk, 'Index Monasticus for East Anglia;' and had made some useful explorations into the fossil remains on the coast of Norfolk. In America he wrote for various philosophical Societies,—and published in 1848 his large work on the statistics of coal.

Many of our readers who value highly the literary services of Colonel Rawlinson will have great satisfaction in learning that from the rank of consul at Bagdad he has been promoted to that of consul-general to the province.

There are many movements going on at this time in the public offices. The office of Public Works is moving to Whitehall Place. The Ordnance Office at the Tower is moving to Pall Mall. The Excise Department in Broad Street is moving to Somerset House, where the Stamps and Taxes are already located. The Poor Law Board is moving to Gwydyr House. The Board of Health is moving from that well-known residence into a house in Parliament Street; and the Solicitor to the Treasury to the new buildings over the way. The Lord Advocate of Scotland and the Counsel to the Home Office are moving to Spring Gardens. The exodus from Somerset House is almost general. The School of Design has received, it is said, a hint to move. The Admiralty Office is desired to betake itself to Whitehall. The Registrar-General knows not as yet whither he is to move.—Meanwhile, extensive alterations, including the addition of a wing, are in progress at Somerset House. The buildings which occupy—or encumber without occupying—the site, are in process of being cleared away. A number of piles have been driven into the river, and a pile-driving machine floating alongside is at work preparing a strong coffer-dam for the new foundations.

It appears by an advertisement for tenders inserted in the daily papers, that Government has at length adopted its resolution with regard to the steam route to Australia. Twenty steamers of the first class are to be employed in the new service. The passage through Torres Straits is abandoned in favour of the southern route; so that, the mails from Sydney will be carried to Singapore all round the lower base of the continent. This arrangement can only be temporary. Nature herself has determined against this as the final highway between the Australian capital and the nearest British emporium in the Eastern hemisphere,—it is almost the same as if a regulation compelled vessels trading between Cork and London to go round the north of Ireland; but in the present state of the colonies it may possibly not work amiss. Certainly, Port Phillip, Adelaide, Swan River Settlement, and all the stations on the north and west will receive benefit from the preference. The announcement for tenders also states the important fact, that the parties offering must undertake to convey the mails every fortnight between this country, the Mediterranean, Hindustan, and China. Thus we shall have two desiderata supplied at the same time:—a fortnightly mail overland to and from China,—and a regular system of steam communication between the various colonies of Australia and the mother country.

The cottage reform is gradually swelling into a national movement. It began with Howard. It was taken up shortly afterwards by the Whitbreads and others as a delegated duty. But the living generation—the race of fox-hunting, roaring, roystering country squires "born to drink and vote and raise the price of corn"—had to die off before the humanities of the question raised by the philanthropist could be understood, much less adopted. A race, however, has now succeeded, or is succeeding, to the profits and duties of "the Fine Old English Gentleman" which is sensible of the power of logic and open to the influence of humane ideas. Every day we see and hear evidence that property has begun to comprehend something of the spirit of the age. This week we see it announced that the Duke of Northumberland has commenced the erection of a thousand new and superior cottages on his estate in the North:—thus following and strengthening a movement begun and carried out by others. We know of no higher title to regard, even in the story of the Percies, than works like this confer on a wealthy family. If we are not mistaken in the signs of the times, the day is not far distant when it will be thought more honourable to have been the builder of a thousand model cottages than the hero of a hundred fights.

The Spanish Government has named two Commissioners to conduct, at Madrid, with Messrs. Barocho and Couture the negotiations for a treaty of international literary copyright. M. Cordova, a distinguished senator, and M. Eugène Ochoa, the author, a principal official in the Ministry of Public Instruction, are charged with powers to bring this treaty to a conclusion.—By the way, we must take the opportunity of correcting an error of detail which crept last week into our statement of the provisions of the copyright treaty between England and France. The expense of the certifi-

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cate of registration conferring foreign copyright in Paris is not to exceed 6 francs 25 centimes,—instead of 25 francs, as stated by mistake.

The Warsaw journals announce the death of one of the celebrities of modern Polish literature—Madame Nakwaska. This lady was the author of Polish novels and of sketches of the society of the capital. She has died at the age of 69.

The importance of an uninterrupted passage from Vienna to the sea coast at Trieste is so great, that the Austrian Government some time since offered a prize of 20,000 gold ducats for the construction of an engine which could overcome the considerable gradient and curves of that mountain railroad. The prize was awarded to the locomotive of M. Maffei of Munich:—whereupon some of the engineers of Vienna started the objection that Government could not use the engine in question as some of its contrivances invaded patents of theirs obtained since the prize was proposed. This created some delay; but the Austrian Minister of Public Works has ordered, nevertheless, that the 20,000 golden ducats shall be paid.

The "Eighth Harry," it is known, founded a grammar school at Worcester in connexion with the Cathedral. He set down all the figures and named the sums to be paid to each with the exactness of a Cocker. There were to be for ever—one dean, ten canons, one schoolmaster, one usher, forty grammar boys, and ten choristers. The allowances were fixed as precisely:—the dean was to enjoy every year 133*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; the canons 20*l.* each; the schoolmaster 20*l.*; the usher 10*l.*; the school boys 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; the choristers 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* The cathedral dignitaries, as was usual, became the managers of this endowment. Some three centuries or so passed on, during which public opinion slumbered in Worcester,—"social order" was undisturbed by any bold reformer,—and the dean and canons were as solemn and conservative as the fine old cathedral itself. At last, however, the longest sleep will come to an end. Opening its drowsy eyes, Opinion of Worcester begun one fine day to peer about in strange corners of its noble edifice;—when it was surprised to find ten of its boys missing—ten of the forty. This led to further inquiry. It then found that even the remaining thirty had paid ten guineas each for their places. How was this? Was there not money enough? No—was the answer: not enough:—at least, not since the canons, in direct violation of the statutes, had raised their own allowances from 20*l.* a-year to 626*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* each!—since 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* a-year had been deducted from each boy's allowance for the master, 2*s.* for the cost of coals! Because, after taking 2*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* from 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, there only remains 3*s.* 10*d.* as a provision for each boy,—which is demonstrably not sufficient for his maintenance. Worcester public opinion, somewhat startled by such answers, has put in a formal protest against this system of management:—and threatens to be still more demonstrative unless the clerical administrators in question profess themselves willing to admit of a searching inquiry into the past with a view to reforms for the future.

It appears that we have not yet got clear out of the entanglement in which our correspondent "S. A." [*ante*, p. 1150] involved us by the summary extinction of the race of White of Selbourne. Neither the inheritors of the honoured name nor their friends are willing that the family shall thus be annihilated by a casual traveller. Another correspondent, well known to ourselves, writes to us to say that the descendants of Gilbert White's brothers are very numerous. Three of those brothers are represented by living "particles" that object to be thus "snuffed out by an article":—and of these numerous descendants our former correspondent, Mr. A. *Holt* White, is one.

Mr. Bolton Corney has addressed a proposal to our contemporary *Notes and Queries* on the subject of the Caxton Testimonial. Mr. Milman's poetical idea of a lamp and fountain—light by night, beauty by day, and usefulness at all hours—having dropped for the present, in consequence of want of larger funds,—and no other project being at the moment under discussion for supplying its place,—Mr. Corney thinks it would be advisable to spend the money in reprinting Caxton's works,—a man's works being thought his best monument. Including the whole of the typographer's original writings, specimens of his translations, a brief notice of his life, a glossary of obsolete terms, and an appendix of documents, Mr. Corney calculates that the whole might be contained in a single octavo volume, to be sold at a moderate price.—Like most other propositions, this seems to us to have a weak and a strong side. To a reprint of Caxton such as Mr. Corney suggests we have no objection. The volume, as we have described it, would be a welcome present to all lovers of history, biography, and philology,—and would enable many who have no present access to the works which it would contain to learn something of the man as he himself thought and wrote. But we would on no account allow this reprint to supersede the material monument. They who argue that an author's book is the best statue that can be erected to his memory, urge a mere truism, so far as the individual is concerned. But the feelings out of which springs the desire to erect monuments to illustrious men of other times is not altogether individual. It is partly an historical instinct. Many of those who contend for a statue to Cromwell in the New Palace, do so, not on the personal ground so much as because it offends their historical sentiment that the material records of the country do not correspond with the written. It would be no addition of renown to Cromwell if he were allowed to take his niche in the House of Commons,—nor to Shakspeare if a colossal monument were raised in his name on Primrose Hill. The honour and the illustration are not to them,—but to the country, to us and to our children. Caxton's works, printed and set on the library shelf, would be seen by only a few,—read by still fewer. His monument in the public street would be a daily witness to thousands, preaching to young minds impressive and inspiring lessons. It would inform the intelligent stranger in our great city—not that Caxton is worthy of honour,—but that Englishmen are aware what constitutes their best illustrations.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

Society of Antiquaries.—*Nov.* 20.—Viscount Mahon, President, in the chair.—This was the first meeting of the season,—and it was attended very numerously. Several objects of antiquarian interest were exhibited; including early coins and personal ornaments of the British, Roman, and Saxon periods. Dr. Roots sent a large perforated ball of brick earth, supposed to be Roman, and found on the site of Cæsar's encampment not far from Kingston. Some discussion took place as to the use to which it had been applied. One or two members seemed to think that it had been one of the rubbing stones of a quern, or hand-mill; but the objection to this notion was, that the material was too soft. Mr. Porrett, with more plausibility, conjectured that it had been used as an offensive weapon at the end of a rope or chain; but if so, it must have been of British, not of Roman origin,—such instruments not having been usually employed by the Romans.—Mr. R. B. Price accompanied an exhibition of tesselated pavement (found in making the recent improvements) by a letter giving a general view of such discoveries in or near London.—Mr. J. R. Smith laid on the table some impressions of inscriptions upon a church either in Falaise or in some other town of Normandy. They were of a Christian character, and of a very early date. Many volumes were added to the Library:—nearly all the archæological Associations of Denmark, Sweden, and Norway sending presents of their printed proceedings. Mr. Schoolcraft, of Washington, transmitted a copy of his very learned and well illustrated work (prepared by order of the Legislature) on the antiquity, history and present state of the various tribes of Indians now incorporated in the United States.—Mr. Pettigrew communicated some observations on the manner in which the Egyptians buried with embalmed bodies representations of the deities supposed to preside over the structure of different parts of the human frame.—We mentioned last season the gift by the Rev. Mr. Kerrich of several thousand early Greek, Roman, and British coins. During the recess, Capt. Smyth, assisted by Mr. Akerman and Mr. J. R. Smith, has arranged the whole of them in the usual classes; and according to the report of the first of these gentlemen, they turn out to be, not only more numerous, but of considerably greater value than was supposed. They have been placed in several cabinets; and, with other relics of the same kind already in the museum of the Society, they form a most useful and instructive historical series. A vote of thanks was passed for this report to Capt. Smyth:—who it is understood will relinquish his office of Director at the next anniversary, and confine himself to his new duties as one of the Vice-Presidents. The election of his successor is in the whole body of the Society:—the Council having the duty in the first instance of recommending the candidate.

Royal Society of Literature.—*Nov.* 19.—Sir J. Doratt in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. Hogg, 'On the Recent Discoveries in Central Africa,' particularly those relating to philology, by Drs. Barth and Overweg.—When the despatches lately received from the travellers left Kouka on the west shore of Lake Tchad, Dr. Overweg was engaged, as our readers know, in surveying the lake and its numerous islands; while Dr. Barth, proceeding S.S.W. to Yola, the capital of the kingdom of Adamaua, had determined the facts: first, that there does not exist any range of mountains continued from Mount Mendefy to the W.N.W.; and, secondly, that the connexion of the Niger with the Sharyby, the river of Adamaua, called in its lower course the Tsadda, is certain. Mr. Hogg described the characteristics of the two great tribes of nomades visited by Drs. Barth and Overweg in the extensive districts of the Sahara,—viz., the Tuaryk, on the W. and S.W., and the Tibboo, on the E. of that vast desert and on the N. and N.E. of Lake Tchad. Numerous tribes of the Tuaryks inhabit the middle of the Sahara; both the appearance and language of these tribes show that they belong to the Berbers, the aborigines of Northern Africa. The Tuaryk language is believed to be the original Berber. It differs in nothing but pronunciation from that of the Berbers of Mount Atlas; and is probably the same with the language used by the aborigines of Northern Africa before the arrival of the Phœnician colonists, who introduced that dialect of the Hebrew called Punic. The two nations and their languages became mixed by intermarriages, &c.:—whence Virgil's expression, in describing the inhabitants of the country about Carthage, "Tyrios bilingues." The Tibboo, or east Saharic tribes, use a distinct idiom of the Berber. Among other discoveries made by the two travellers is the philological one of two new languages. One of these is said to be spoken by the inhabitants of Lake Tchad or by a tribe bordering on that lake:—the second was met with among the native tribes of Central Africa, considerably to the south of that lake. Both of these appear to be distinct from the Berber or Tuaryk tongue,—and from the dialects of Southern Africa and the true Negro idioms.—Some remarks were addressed to the meeting by Mr. Birch respecting the names of the African prisoners ranged round the statue of Thothmes III. in the Louvre. Many of these names are found in Pliny, some in Ptolemy, and a few in Herodotus. This subject, Mr. Birch observed, had engaged the pen of M. de Rougé, in a memoir on the tomb of Aahmes, at El-Hegs, lately read before the Institute of France, which he stated to be a most valuable introduction to Egyptian philology. Sir G. Wilkinson had likewise noticed the same subject, in commenting on the tomb of Aahmes. The extent of the empire of the Pharaohs is shown in the variety and remoteness of the countries to which the prisoners belonged.—M. Lenormant gave an account of the formation of the beautiful hieroglyphic type employed at the Imprimerie Nationale of Paris, and in particular in printing the above-mentioned memoir of M. de Rougé. A set of hieroglyphic types was composed by M. Letronne, and executed in an imperfect manner by M. Dubois. These

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actually in use are by M. de Rouge himself; and were arranged by him for the Imprimerie Nationale, and executed at the expense of Government. The characters are already numerous,—but the nature of the subject requires continual additions.

Statistical.—*Nov.* 17.—Lieut.-Col. W. H. Sykes, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. Guy read a paper 'On the Duration of Life among the Clergy.'—This paper was the first of a series of communications which Dr. Guy proposed addressing to the Society on the duration of life among the members of the several professions. A preliminary inquiry into the subject, based on facts extracted from the obituaries of the Annual Register, was brought under the notice of the British Association in September 1846,—and was subsequently published in the ninth volume of the Journal of the Statistical Society. In that essay it was shown that the clergy are longer lived than the members of other professions,—though they do not live so long by several years as agricultural labourers. The facts contained in the present communication tended to confirm the results established in the former essay, by showing a very favourable duration of life among the clergy; but detailed comparisons of one profession with another were necessarily reserved till the completion of the contemplated series of papers. The essay was illustrated by several tables:—among others, by tables comparing the clergy of cities and towns with those of rural places, the married with the single clergy, and the clergy of past times with those of the present day. It resulted from these tables—which were admitted to be based, in some points, on too small a number of facts—that the clergy of rural districts had an advantage of more than two years over those of cities and towns,—and the married of more than five years over the single. The duration of life among the clergy in the last three centuries appears to have been remarkably steady,—with signs of recent improvement. The last table of the series contrasted the average age at death of Popes, Archbishops, and Bishops of the Established Church and Romish Saints. The Popes being appointed very late in life, attained the greatest mean age,—exceeding that of our Archbishops and Bishops by about a year:—the latter surviving the Romish Saints by about two years. This abbreviation of life in the case of the Saints of the Romish calendar may probably be attributed in part to celibacy, in part to the ascetic practices to which some of them were addicted.

Institution of Civil Engineers.—*Nov.* 18.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'A Description of a new Metallic Manometer, and other Instruments for measuring Pressures and Temperatures,' by M. Eugène Bourdon, of Paris.—The instruments were stated to be very generally adopted in France, where the government inspectors of steam-engines used pressure gauges on this principle in verifying the accuracy of all the other instruments they found attached to the engines under their inspection. At the French Exposition of 1849, M. Bourdon received a gold medal, and at the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park, he was rewarded by a Council medal.—Mr. Pole exhibited and explained an instrument of his invention, called the "Prismatic Clinometer," for measuring angles of elevation and depression. It was an application to vertical angles of the principle of Capt. Kater's prismatic compass, in which the angle is read by a prism, at the same time that the sights are directed to the object. The advantages of Mr. Pole's instrument were, its portability, it being only about three inches diameter and three quarters of an inch thick,—its simplicity, durability, and safety in carriage,—the convenience and facility with which it could be used,—and its accuracy. The various applications of the instrument were explained, and also a modification of its construction, by which it could be combined with the prismatic compass, and a new compound instrument thereby produced, which would be exceedingly useful in topographical investigations.—Mr. C. May directed the attention of the Meeting to some specimens of iron ore now being extensively raised in the neighbourhood of Middlesbro'-on-Tees, by which as great a revolution would, probably, be caused in the iron trade of the North of England as the discovery of the black band ore in Scotland had produced some years since. This ore was found in a bed of 15 feet to 18 feet in thickness, close to the surface, amidst cheap fuel, and within a few miles of a seaport; and as it contained from 33 to 35 per cent. of iron, its advantages were already so fully estimated by the proprietors of some iron-works where there were eleven blast furnaces, that they had ceased working their former mines, and conveyed this ore a distance of 55 miles by railway with advantage to the quantity and quality of the iron produced.

Syro-Egyptian.—*Nov.* 11.—Dr. H. Yates in the chair.—Dr. Beke made a communication 'On the Exploration of the Upper Course of the Bahr-al-Abyad,' by Dr. Knoblecher, the Pope's Vicar-General in Central Africa, through more than half a degree of latitude beyond the extreme point reached by the Turco-Egyptian Expeditions. The observations made by Dr. Knoblecher in the parallel of 4° 9′ have already been given to the public:—and Dr. Beke remarked that they tended to confirm his views, as to the sources of the Nile being considerably more to the southward.—Mr. Bonomi made a communication 'On the Ancient Mode of setting up Stones and Obelisks on their Pedestals.' Mr. Bonomi remarked that on some of the largest stones in the temples of Greece and Sicily a groove is made, in the shape of a horseshoe, at each end of the stone, by which means a rope could be inserted and the stone suspended and lowered into its place without disturbing its neighbours, and then the rope drawn out. In the great Temple of Agrigentum in Sicily there is also another contrivance for lifting and lowering into its place large blocks of stone. It consists of a projection at each end of the stone, (part of the block itself) round which a rope might be placed, in the same way as, in former contrivances, it was placed in the groove. In the great blocks of the terrace wall of the Temples of Baalbek there are some accurately-cut square holes of sufficient depth to insert iron pins by which the block might be attached to the moving power. With us a rectangular hole is cut in the upper surface of the block, which hole is wider at the bottom than at the top for the insertion of iron wedges and a ring; by which means the block is suspended and lowered into its place. None of these contrivances, however, are discoverable in Egypt; but Mr. Bonomi pointed out in the pedestals of two obelisks of Luxor and in the pedestals of the colossal sitting statues of the plain of Gorna, grooves that extended the whole length of the profile of the square block on which the statue is erected. Into this groove was placed the lower edge of the seat, first of all very obliquely and afterwards and by slow degrees less so, till the hoisting or lifting process became changed for the lowering process, which must have been done with equal and steady movement. Mr. Bonomi then illustrated the process from the account left by the Egyptians themselves on the wall of a tomb and given by Rosellini, in the great work published by the Tuscan Mission.—Mr. Bonomi also exhibited a comparative view of all the Obelisks now set up in the world; and also a drawing of the limestone statue of Rameses II., Sesostris of the Greeks, now lying on its face among the ruins of Memphis,—and which it has been proposed by a Correspondent of the *Athenæum* of the 25th of October to remove to this country instead of the Alexandrian Obelisk.—This question gave rise to some discussion: from which it appeared that all the Egyptian travellers present—among whom were Dr. H. Yates, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Scoles, Dr. Beke, and others—were opposed to the removal of so dilapidated a monument,—but rather thought that the best thing that could be done would be, to re-erect it in its present position.—Equally strongly did most of those present object to the removal of the obelisk of Heliopolis:—so striking and so characteristic a monument where it now stands. Dr. Yates gave an amusing history of the Alexandrine obelisk; which once bore a plate commemorative of the battle of Aboukir, and hence became obnoxious to a portion of the Frank population of Alexandria:—and he added, that if a monument was wanted in this country, it would be much better to erect one of a national character, and to support native art and industry, than to remove a ruinous obelisk that would not harmonize with anything around it.—Mr. Ainsworth read two communications—one by Mr. William B. Barker, the other by Mr. Birch of the British Museum—'On the Terra Cottas of Tarsus.' Since last session, Mr. Barker's brother had continued the exploration of the site,—which Mr. Birch compares to the Monte Testaccio at Rome; and had obtained many more examples of figures and objects illustrative of the arts and history of the city of the Assyrian Sardanapalus, the Apostle Paul, and the Apostate Julian. The figures and objects in Mr. Barker's possession now amount to upwards of one thousand; and a considerable portion of the more interesting among the newly discovered were exhibited to the Society. Mr. Birch describes them as "in style of art, many of them of exquisite taste and feeling, and some the most charming fragments of terra cotta that he had seen." As Mr. Barker intends communicating these discoveries to the public soon, it is unnecessary to enter into the details elucidating the separate figures and objects, and their bearing on the art and local history of Tarsus as developed by Mr. Birch, Mr. Barker, and Mr. Abingdon.

Institute of Actuaries.—*Nov.* 24.—C. Jellicoe, Esq. V.P. in the chair.—The Secretary read a long list of donations to the library from the under-mentioned public Boards, consisting of all their more recent publications, the whole comprising upwards of 100 vols.—Board of Trade, General Board of Health, Commissioners of Railways, Poor Law Board, Inspectors of Factories, Ecclesiastical Commissioners, Committee of Council on Education, Home Office (Criminal Tables), Surveyor-General of Prisons. The Chairman announced that the Council had elected forty corresponding members resident out of the United Kingdom,—by means of whom the Institute was put into communication with twenty-seven of the leading cities in Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States of America.

A mathematical paper was read, entitled 'Some Considerations on the Theories of Combinations, Probabilities and Life Contingencies,' by P. Hardy, Esq.:—in which the author endeavoured to give an elementary view of some of the leading theorems in the doctrine of probabilities, and to show how immediately apparently complicated problems in life contingencies involving three or even more lives can be deduced from some of the very simplest forms and expressions in the doctrine of probabilities. In order to do this, the author treated briefly the subject of combinations; and gave nine problems in which the probability of an event happening once, twice, three times, &c. in any number of trials, is at once thrown into the form of the expectation of one, two, or three lives, and their joint and successive continuance. The paper concluded with six tables, showing the algebraical formulæ for the determination of the probability of an event happening from 1 to n times, in from 1 to n trials.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon.	Royal Academy, 8.—Anatomical Lecture.
—	Chemical, 8.
—	British Architects, 8.
—	Royal (Anniversary), 4.
Tues.	Horticultural, 2.
—	Linnean, 8.
—	Civil Engineers, 8.—'Account of the Works on the Birmingham Extension of the Birmingham and Oxford Junction Railway,' by Mr. C. B. Lane.
—	Pathological, 8.
Wed.	Geological, half-past 8.—'On a curious Fossil Fern from Cape Breton,' by C. J. F. Bunbury, Esq.—'On the Cambrian and Silurian Rocks which appear at the Base of the Carboniferous Chain of Yorkshire, near the Craven Fault,' by the Rev. A. Sedgwick.
Thurs.	Antiquaries, 8.
—	Zoological, 3.—General Business.
Fri.	Archæological Institute, 4.
Sat.	Medical, 8.

THE COLLODION PROCESS IN PHOTOGRAPHY.

I am anxious to communicate to those engaged in the Collodion process in Photography an improvement in the manipulation which I believe will be found to facilitate the process considerably. It is, the use of the upright glass bath for the

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nitrate of silver solution:—and I will endeavour, in as few words as possible to explain my mode of using it.—The bath is about three parts filled with a solution of nitrate of silver of the usual strength; and the prepared glass (as soon as the film of Collodion has set) is plunged into it. The whole is then placed in its proper position in the camera,—the focus having been previously obtained; and the light is thus allowed to act on the prepared film whilst in the bath of nitrate of silver. By this means great cleanliness is preserved in the manipulation,—and very delicate pictures are obtained.—I have used this bath during the whole of the summer and autumn; and several friends, at my suggestion, have adopted it with great success.—The bath is made of two pieces of the best plate glass, connected together at the sides and bottom, and gradually tapering downwards so as to form a narrow wedge-shaped bath,—the top being about three-eighths of an inch wide and the bottom one-eighth. This bath is cemented into a wooden frame, having a closely fitting lid to prevent all dust falling into the solution.

I am, &c. FRED. SCOTT ARCHER.

18, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden.

FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Of the two sorts of railing—the offensive and the defensive—the British Museum will have had an unusual share. Of the latter kind it will exhibit a superfluity. Fence spreads before fence,—a line of dwarf railing in front for the protection of the tall and showy grenadier-like palisades in the rear:—so that, with the sentinels to boot, the Museum will be at all events well guarded, if it be not quite so well watched as we could desire. Such excessive caution and jealousy might lead a stranger to suppose the building to be a Mint instead of a Museum, and that the gilding on the palisading was intended to symbolize the coinage of the precious metals within. For our own part, we have all along expressed our opinion that the inclosing of the space before the Museum was not only unnecessary, and therefore a piece of extravagance,—but a means of diminishing the general architectural effect. Not only does the lofty palisading operate too much as a screen, interrupting a distinct view of the colonnaded façade from the street,—but, besides indicating a different taste from the former, it is in itself too pretending. While the gilding bestowed on it causes it to look finical and foppish in comparison with the architecture of the edifice, the latter suffers by being made to look more chillingly cold and bare than before,—and in some respects strangely stinted and unfinished, too. The enormously massive stone piers, again, considerably reduce the apparent size of the Ionic pillars of the colonnade:—nor do they when so exaggerated agree with the character of a comparatively light metal work fence or screen. As regards the piers, too, there is a strangely unartistic omission:—there being no pier at all where something of the kind seems most called for,—viz. at the extreme angle next Montague Street, where instead of the termination in that direction being boldly defined, the palisading is made to sweep round the corner. Owing to this, as there are piers elsewhere, a disagreeable expression of weakness takes place just at the point where strength should have been more decidedly pronounced. As the hoarding is removed only from that portion of the frontage which is to the east of the centre, we are unable to say what the centre itself will be, or whether any sort of porter's lodge is to be erected at the entrance there. Neither do we know whether it is intended to have merely sentry-boxes, or to "practise" recesses for the sentinels in the stone piers. If, in compliance with custom and what seems to be etiquette, we are to have the former, it may be presumed that they will be some degrees less mean and unsightly than things of the kind now generally are. Possibly a little metallic lustre will be extended to them:—if not, they may contrast rather ludicrously with the gilt-work of the palisades.

Dr. Secker, a gentleman who had acquired a large fortune in Mexico, has left to the Print-Room of the National Library in Paris all such of his large collection of engravings as that establishment may be deficient of. He has bequeathed, also, 200,000 francs to the Institute of France. Dr. Secker's collection of paintings has been sold,—and fetched high prices.

We find it stated in the *Builder* that M. Decker the publisher, of Berlin, has engaged the most eminent engravers of Dresden, Munich, Nurnberg and other places to prepare plates for Kaulbach's frescoes now in progress of execution at the New Museum in the Prussian Capital. Some thirty of the great master's pupils are now at work on these frescoes; two or three rooms are nearly finished, and the magnificent cartoons on the grand staircase are well advanced. The interest felt in these works in Germany is such, that the Government has been induced to throw open the rooms to the public; and from the day when the paintings were actually begun, although a fee is charged to keep out the crowd, there has been a constant inflow of visitors. The engraving will necessarily occupy some years. Many of the plates, we understand, are to be coloured.

It is stated that a fine picture has just been found in the episcopal school in Cologne—which, on internal evidence, is pronounced to be by the same artist as the altar-piece in the Cathedral.

The Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Berlin announces that it will open in that capital an Exhibition of the works of living artists on the 1st of September in next year. The Exhibition will be continued for a period of two months;—and the artists of all nations are invited to contribute their works.

The Lateran Museum, founded in Rome by Gregory the Sixteenth, is slowly but steadily adding to its collection of valuable antiques. The latest acquisition consists of a series of eight statues of superior excellence, found in the Augusteum of the municipeum of Cœre, representing members of the family of Octavian. The spaces of the Aula, constructed by Sixtus the Fifth out of the ancient palace, are nearly filled with inscriptions, columns, fragments, and other monuments of more or less interest for Greek Art and Roman history.

A Correspondent of the *Builder* has written to that paper from Chelmsford assuring the editor, by way of what the writer assumes to be correction, that the statue of Chief Justice Tindal does "rest upon the *pedestal provided* by Mr. Baily, the sculptor." No doubt it does,—and this is precisely one of the absurdities in the case. The statue is lifted, pedestal and all, on to the pump:—whereby the pump becomes the final pedestal, and the sculptor's pedestal dwindles to a plinth. Had the statue been designed as an original decoration of the conduit, it would have been made to combine intimately with the main work of which it was to be an incident. The extra pedestal is the mark of its foreign origin,—and the *two* pedestals are an expression of the incongruities here assembled as emphatic as the figure of a Water-God in a wig and gown.—The Correspondent of the *Builder* adds, that Mr. Baily himself, on a recent visit to the town, admitted that the combination in question was "neither offensive nor ridiculous." Supposing Mr. Baily to be correctly reported, we can only observe, that it was very kind in him to say so. But, with all due reverence for Mr. Baily's dictum on a matter of Art, we cannot put our sense of the incongruous absolutely at his disposal. The town of Chelmsford is unquestionably lucky if it can quote such authority;—but for ourselves, we can only say, that if Mr. Baily thinks a Judge on a pump a felicitous arrangement, for once we differ from him.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MISS DOLBY has the honour to announce that the SECOND of her ANNUAL SERIES of THREE SOIRÉES MUSICALES will take place at her residence, 2, Hinde-street, Manchester-square, on TUESDAY, the 2nd of December, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Miss DOLBY will be assisted by eminent Vocal and Instrumental Artistes.—Tickets, Half-a-guinea each, to be had of Miss Dolby only.

PRINCESS'S.—This theatre has opened in full force, with 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' costumed according to the period of Henry the Fourth,—and with the first part of the tragedy of 'Henry IV.' itself. The latter is performed as during the previous season, except that Mr. Wigan enacts the *Prince of Wales*. The character in his hands assumes new traits;—rather princely and pensive than familiar and gay. In the latter part, Mr. Wigan evinced great judgment in the subdued tone with which he delivered the solemn speeches previous to the battle,—and the pathetic manner in which he lamented the supposed death of Sir John Falstaff. The jolly knight, in both plays, was represented by Mr. Bartley; who performed with his usual unction, and presented the traditional points which are now interesting from the circumstance that this actor is almost the last survivor of a race, and one with whom these reminiscences of the past will probably expire. One thing to be remarked on, is the comparative slowness of elocution and large amount of emphasis given by the older performers to the text. They seldom missed a point; and Mr. Bartley insists on every portion of a sentence, ascribing to each its shade of meaning. Mr. Harley, in attempting *Slender*, manifested the same peculiarity of a by-gone style; and threw into the character—particularly in the earlier scenes—so much elaboration as to challenge rather more criticism than his performance is well calculated to bear. Mr. Keeley, in the Welsh parson, erred in the contrary direction,—doing too little. Mr. Meadows as *Shallow*, and Mr. Wigan as *Dr. Caius*, aimed at originality rather than force in their impersonations; but the taste displayed atoned in some degree for the want of certain points to which we have been accustomed. There was, indeed, throughout an evident ostentation of thinking for themselves on the part of all the principal performers,—Mr. Vining, as *Page*, excepted. The part of *Ford*, by Mr. Charles Kean, deserves to be recorded as a specific creation;—so skilfully did it avoid all imitation of previous performances, and so adroitly succeed in pourtraying the comic side of the passion of jealousy. Mrs. Keeley and Mrs. Kean as the two "Merry Wives" were excellent and well contrasted. The impression at the conclusion was, that we had not for a long time seen the comedy so strongly cast and so carefully played. The scenery and accessories were new and costly, and the variety of the costumes and in some instances their beauty, will doubtless prove attractive.

On Monday, a new farce by Mr. Serle, called 'Tender Precautions; or, the Romance of Marriage,' was produced. The burthen of the humour lay on Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, as *Mr. and Mrs. Gosling;* who are the scapegoats of other people's peccadilloes,—the former getting kicked and challenged in place of his friend Jack Sparks (Mr. Wigan), and the latter being thrown into a dreadful fit of matrimonial jealousy by the mysterious aspect of affairs. The plot of this drama was needlessly complicated by the introduction of incidents foreign to the main design; and became, about midway, not a little tedious;—but the performers returned to the charge with spirit, and recalled the attention of the audience. There was want of comic *vis* in the dialogue; and many of the jests proved abortive, either from "the nothing" of the point, or from weakness in the expression. The piece requires much abridgment.

HAYMARKET.—A clever farce was produced here on Monday. It is by Mr. J. M. Morton, and entitled 'The Two Bonnycastles.' Mr. Buckstone supports the hero:—who is the victim of an odd adventure, founded, we believe, on an actual event recorded in the newspapers. Being accidentally knocked down in the Park, and missing his watch, Bonnycastle concludes that a person whom he saw running has robbed him of it:—whom, accordingly, he follows, knocks down in turn, and deprives of his watch, thinking it to be his own. On his return home, he discovers that he had left his own watch behind him,—and that instead of having suffered robbery himself, he has inflicted it on another. To escape the consequences, he leaves his wife, changes his name, becomes a lawyer's clerk,—and is about to commit bigamy with the lawyer's niece, when his rival in love appears, and proves to be the identical person whose watch he had stolen, and who, first

some acquaintance with our hero's wife, had been induced, for his own purposes, to assume the name of Bonnycastle. In the midst of the jealousy and confusion occasioned by this event, *Mrs. Bonnycastle* steps in,—and matters are finally explained. —The drollery of Mr. Buckstone's acting in this farce was irresistible; and he made the most of the points in the dialogue,—which is smartly written.

Punch's Playhouse.—'Counter Attractions,' a farce by Mr. Tilbury, written for Mr. John Reeve, has proved successful. It is simply a medium for the latter's imitation of several living performers and of the sound of various musical instruments:—both which were cleverly managed.

Musical and Dramatic Gossip.—We hear that among Mr. Webster's musical novelties talked about is a new opera by Mr. Balfe. — On Wednesday was once again revived 'The Beggars' Opera.' This *extravaganza* is not kept alive wholly by the sweet and simple old English tunes which it contains, but as much by the skill and sharpness of Gay's share in the work. Let it be noted, too, for the benefit of all given to undervalue the poet's share in the best musical drama, that the Duchess of Queensberry's *protégé* runs a better chance of being remembered in future days by this "Newgate Pastoral" than by his 'Fables.'

It must suffice that we announce among the music of the week the *Seventh and last Concert* for the season of the *Lyric Madrigal and Glee Club*, held at the Whittington Club, on Monday evening last. —Miss Bassano has been singing for M. Jullien since Monday last.

The *Orchestral Society* has, we believe, been dissolved "conclusively,"—to use Dr. Chalmers's favourite word;—its history thus far being told by two lines from the now-forgotten "Dr. Syntax:"—

Heaven pardon all who were to blame,
The child is gone that never came.

Next week we shall have something graver to say concerning the reasons which rendered dissolution necessary.

All who have followed the rise and developement of singing at sight in England will hear with interest that the Wilhem method, as adapted to English use by Mr. Hullah, has not long since been introduced into our Royal Academy of Music; in preparation for the more refined courses of vocal instruction to be afterwards given by the Professors of singing.

Two grand musical Masses were performed last week in Paris for beneficent purposes:—one by M. Zimmermann, on St. Cecilia's Day, in aid of the Association of Artists-Musicians;—and the Fifth Mass of M. Dietsch for another musical charity.—Madame Barbieri-Nini has been singing in Rossini's 'Semiramide' with greater success, the journals say, than in 'Lucrezia Borgia.'—The *Société Sainte Cécile*, conducted by M. Seghers, has commenced its series of concerts for the season.—The Countess of Landsfeldt has been once again brought before the Courts of Paris; this time at the suit of her theatrical agent, M. Roux, who has failed to make good his claim upon her.

M. Ponsard has decided to give his 'Ulysse,' with M. Gounod's choruses, at the *Théâtre Français*,—and not at the *Théâtre Porte St.-Martin*, as was at one time intended.

The opera composed by M. Duprez, and just given at Brussels, appears to have gained a success of esteem. So great, however, is our confidence in the determined energy of the admirable tenor,—to which, indeed, his success as a singer was largely due,—that we shall not be surprised if he force for himself his way to certain merit and success as a composer. The last tenor singer who composed operas was Rossini's first *Count Almaviva*, Signor Garcia:—Signor Costa, who might also be cited, having figured as a vocalist only by the merest accident.

The Frankfort journals state that the success of Madame Sontag is on the increase. She was to appear in Flotow's 'Martha,'—an opera which, strange to say, retains its popularity in Germany. The journals of the Free Town speak, too, in cordial terms of the impression produced by Signor Marchesi as a concert-singer,—commending his voice, method, and versatility of range in the music sung by him. That this gentleman wanted only familiarity with the public to succeed in no ordinary degree, we pointed out more than once before he left England.

An interesting historical concert was the other day given at Dresden for the benefit of an Artists' fund; in which the music ranged betwixt Walter (1548) and Wagner,—from whose 'Flying Dutchman' a chorus was performed, in token of the peace recently made between the King and the Composer. An act of grace, too, has been passed in favour of that old favourite with the Dresden public, Madame Schröder-Devrient, who had also been in disgrace, we read, in consequence of her having been mixed up in political affairs.

"A hit" is said to have been made at the *Théâtre des Variétés*, by 'Mignon,' a little drama in which Goethe's exquisite creation is freely handled, and charmingly personified by Mdlle. Favart. To judge from the *Journal des Débats*, "a miss" seems to have been again unluckily made by Mdlle. Dejazet, in her new part, in 'Quand on va cueillir la Noisette,'—a trifle just produced at the *Théâtre Vaudeville*.

MISCELLANEA

Discovery of a Freshwater Lake in the Interior of Western Australia.—Mr. Philip Oakden, in prosecuting discoveries lately for runs, has discovered a freshwater lake of some extent towards the northern extremity of Lake Torrens, and has claimed for the adjacent country an occupation licence. He was directed to it, we understand, by information received from the natives,—and access to it can be gained only by crossing a salt-water swamp. This discovery tends to confirm the impression that Lake Torrens receives the drainage from a tract of high inland country, the continuance, probably, of the ranges which, in Western Australia, tend to the north-eastward; the main drainage is probably towards the northward, and creates the large rivers which are known to flow in that direction. Probably it may yet be proved that Cooper's Creek empties itself at the head of Lake Torrens. The attention of the Government must soon be turned towards fresh exploration; our total ignorance of the vast tract lying north and west of the settled districts of the province being discreditable to us, and not a little tantalizing.—*Adelaide Observer.*

Sir James Stephen's Lectures.—Cambridge, Nov. 26.—Your notice of Sir James Stephen's Lectures tempts me to send a few lines in explanation of some matters which non-academical readers might very naturally misunderstand,—but which should be clearly stated in order to place both the lecturer and the University in a fair light. Sir James has (independently of a large body of what may be called amateurs) two distinct classes of hearers:—first, those who intend either one or twelve months after taking their degree to present themselves as candidates for *honours* in the Moral Sciences Tripos:—second, those who intend not to graduate in honours, but to take an ordinary degree, and are compelled previous to their degree to attend one course at least of the lectures of one at least of the Professors of moral and natural sciences, and pass a satisfactory examination in the subject of the course. This regulation is intended for the benefit of the numerous idlers who now scrape through a "pol" degree on the strength of a modicum of classics, mathematics and divinity, hastily swallowed in their last few months. The examination does no more than certify the existence of *some* knowledge of the subject. It is to this latter class of hearers that Sir James's remarks on the scanty knowledge of French must almost entirely apply;—and for their benefit he is now preparing an English abridgment of Sismondi. With the other class the case is different. They are examined not for a certificate, but for honours. They will consist partly of those intelligent and studious persons (not so numerous as many suppose, but still by no means few) who have no great taste for classics and mathematics, and feel more interest in other studies,—and partly of those who have graduated in classics or mathematics, or both. Speaking from a considerable knowledge of such persons, I can say confidently that they are not thus ignorant of French:—indeed, the principal books recommended and used in the only trial that has yet taken place were, Sismondi, Guizot and Hénault.—One more point should be noticed. The Lectures were not intended simply as a class-book to supersede other histories. Sir James Stephen expressly told his hearers that he *assumed* them to have read the facts of the history in Sismondi or elsewhere; and in the examinations only a very small proportion of the questions touched on matters discussed in the Lectures.

Academicus.

To Correspondents.—R.—"Er."—J. R.—S. L. Jun.—Constant Reader—J. W. B.—received.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1851.

REVIEWS

Kossuth in England. Authentic Life of His Excellency Louis Kossuth, Governor of Hungary. With a full Report of the speech delivered in England; to which is added, his Address to the People of the United States of America. Bradbury & Evans.

Kossuth: his Speeches in England, with a brief Sketch of his Life. Gilpin.

M. Kossuth has told the public that on approaching the shores of England—the land of his dreams and of his hopes—he could scarcely overcome a certain sentiment of awe. As is ever the case with great material objects—ships in motion or Alpine ridges—so, vivid conceptions frequently owe much of their poetic charm to the mellowing effect of distance; and as the green slopes of the south coast of our land rose on the Exile's view, he trembled lest the glory with which his mind had so long crowned the Figure of England should dissolve before a stern and prosaic reality. Some such feeling, we believe, existed in many minds on shore with respect to the illustrious Exile himself.

While in the zenith of his power, the leader of a mighty and for a time successful national movement in Hungary, stories reached us of the oratorical genius of Kossuth—of his power over the masses—of his faculty for inspiring personal attachments—which to our colder temperaments raised a suspicion that they must be overcoloured. Common fame represented him as a sort of magician who by a word could persuade men to exchange their silver coin for bits of paper containing no better security than his own promise to pay when he should be able—who by his conjuration could raise up army after army of Magyars and launch them against the Imperial house of Hapsburg. In England we had few means of conceiving the idea of such a man. In our own great revolution oratory played but an inferior part. The swords of Cromwell, Blake, and Fairfax, the passions and convictions of the people, were the executive and motive powers. France had its Mirabeau and its Robespierre; but the most stirring words of those popular tribunes did not—like the dragon teeth of Greek fable and the rumoured spells of Kossuth—spring up armed men. Doubts occurred to many if this imputed gift were not one of those exaggerations common to the East. The whole character of the man, as it was drawn for us by such Magyars, Poles, and English as had seen or learned about him in his own country, was touched with what seemed to persons looking on soberly from a distance the contrasted light and shades of an artistic fancy. Personal beauty, modesty of deportment, refined and gentle manners, romantic generosity, a presence to command respect and inspire devotion, varied knowledge of the world, the highest order of physical and moral courage, and a mind equal to emergencies, ready to act at any moment, and of almost infinite resources,—such were the materials of that sketch of Kossuth which was commonly given by those who shared his general views and spoke of him on personal knowledge. To meet the expectations so raised would be a severe trial to any man:—trebly so when their object was a foreigner, an exile, without wealth, aristocratic connexions, power, or the prestige of victory. Many, therefore, who had been stirred by the Hungarian struggle, and whose hearts had warmed towards the Hungarian hero, believed that the moment he set his foot on English ground the spell of his great name would be broken.

This man has now been among us for a month. He has been seen by millions and heard by thousands. He has addressed influential meetings in Southampton, Winchester, London, Manchester, and Birmingham. He has stood the test of criticism in many shapes:—and from the moment of his landing at Southampton to his embarkation at Cowes for the United States his stay has been one prolonged representation. Has his presence in England vulgarized the romantic image already familiar to the public through the portraiture of his friends? His reception by the people—the enthusiasm created by his speeches, an enthusiasm spreading and deepening to the end of his sojourn—is the answer; and of these speeches we hope to have yet a more perfect record than either of those which now lie before us. Into the discussion of any of those questions which form the subject-matter of these speeches the readers of the *Athenæum* well know that it is beyond our mission to enter:—but, without being prepared to indorse the assertion of Mr. Walter Savage Landor, that "since the days of Demosthenes no equal or similar eloquence has ever been heard on earth," we feel that this great Hungarian monologue has been sufficiently remarkable to bring the actor legitimately before us in the literary point of view.

Of the minor merits of this remarkable man, his command of the English language is perhaps that which creates the largest amount of wonder. With the exception of an occasional want of idiom, the use of a few words in an obsolete sense, and a habit of sometimes carrying (German fashion) the infinitive verb to the end of a sentence,—there is little to distinguish M. Kossuth's English from that of our great masters of eloquence. Select, yet copious and picturesque it is always. The combinations—we speak of his words and diction from the thoughts that lie in them—are often very happy. We can even go so far as to say that he has enriched and utilized our language:—the first by using unusual words with extreme felicity,—the latter by proving to the world how well the pregnant and flexible tongue of Shakspeare adapts itself to the expression of a genius and a race so remote from the Saxon as the Magyar. Most of our readers know the story told by Kossuth himself of his first introduction to our language and literature. The story runs that when, years ago, he was thrown into an Austrian dungeon for daring to publish the debates in the Hungarian Parliament, he was kept for some time in solitary confinement without books or papers,—but that afterwards, in consequence of the representations of the Diet, his gaoler allowed him to have a few books on condition of his not asking for works on politics. He chose a copy of Shakspeare and an English dictionary. Out of the great dramatist he learned our speech, our modes of thinking, our national sentiments. Certain it is, that his extraordinary mastery over our tongue has proved power to the Exile and to his cause. It was a sad blunder of the Austrian police to give him Shakspeare for a prison companion!—To this circumstance, however, we owe it that we are now able to understand, in a vague and reflex way able to understand, but still with no little vividness and life, what must have been the charm and power of the great Magyar's eloquence when it was appealing in a national cause, in its native idiom, and under circumstances of great excitement, to minds kindled at the same sources and hearts beating with the same blood as his own.—This interesting story, too, gives peculiar appropriateness to a proposition that has emanated from Mr. Douglas Jerrold, looking on the Magyar chief in his character of a literary man,—that a subscription from Englishmen of all parties shall produce a testimonial taking the form of a fine copy of Shakspeare, inclosed in a shrine of whatever cost the surplus amount of subscriptions may justify. The thought is in no degree political,—but founds a literary memorial on a highly interesting literary fact.

We have heard M. Kossuth, and we have carefully read the reports of his speeches. His style is new and personal. Compared with the men whose speeches have been received as the best specimens of oratory in recent times—such as Brougham, Lacordaire, Blum, Thiers, Gavazzi, and O'Connell—Kossuth is calm and grave. He has no sophisms, no verbal dexterities. All is with him clear, sequent, logical. He never mouths his passion—never wrings his hands or stamps his feet—never gesticulates his violence, or resorts to the common tricks of the orator to impress his audience with an idea of his earnestness. As a rhetorical weapon he uses scorn very rarely, and we have not read a sneering sentence from his lips. He neither mocks his enemy like Gavazzi, nor insults him like O'Connell. His appeal is made directly to the intellect of his hearer. He seems more anxious to convince than to excite. Warmth of fancy and of feeling he undoubtedly possesses,—and his passion sometimes breaks into sudden explosion. But in these qualities he has had many equals — Chatham, Mirabeau, Patrick Henry, and others of all nations. What seems more particularly Kossuthian—that is, personal—in his eloquence is, its moral undertone. Master of his subject, he speaks to other nations with the energy, but also with much of the gravity, of history. He flatters no prejudice—appeals to no passion—yet, his discourse adapts itself with singular art to its immediate audience. Perhaps next to his excellent English, the thing which is most curious about "M. Kossuth in England" is, the extraordinary genius which he has for saying the right thing in the right place. Of the speeches now reported, not one could change its locality without manifest disadvantage. The City speech was precisely adapted to the City,—the Manchester speech would not have done at Winchester,—nor that delivered at Southampton at Copenhagen Fields. Not that the views and opinions are in any respect contradictory:—but in each there is a special tone, a particular line of argument, exactly calculated to suit the audience before him. If M. Kossuth had lived in England all his days we do not see how he could have displayed a nicer knowledge of our local peculiarities, pursuits, and character than he now does.

As samples of oratorical art these remarkable speeches constitute a study. How frank and simple—how shaped to disarm hostility and inspire confidence—were the first few words uttered by the Exile in England!—

"I beg you will excuse my bad English. Seven weeks back I was a prisoner in Kutayah, in Asia Minor. Now I am a free man. I am a free man because glorious England chose it. That England chose it which the genius of mankind selected for the resting monument of its greatness, and the spirit of freedom for his happy home. Cheered by your sympathy, which is the anchor of hope to oppressed humanity, with the view of your freedom, your greatness, and your happiness, and with the consciousness of my unhappy land in my breast, you must excuse me for the emotion I feel,—the natural consequence of so striking a change and so different circumstances. So, excuse me for not being able to thank you so warmly as I feel for the generous reception in which you honour in my undeserving person the cause of my country. I only hope God Almighty may for ever bless you and your glorious land. Let me hope you will be willing to throw a

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ray of hope and consolation on my native land by this your generous reception. May England be ever great, glorious, and free; but let me hope, by the blessing of Almighty God, and by our own steady perseverance, and by your own generous aid, that England, though she may ever remain the most glorious spot on earth, will not remain for ever the only one where freedom dwells."

These lines contain the germs of nearly all that M. Kossuth afterwards developed in his several speeches.—What, again, could be happier than his illustration of the common phrase "social order" given at the Guildhall? He said:—

"A principle which I meet here in this place is a principle of social order. Many people when they hear this word 'social order' get almost nervous and excited. There are many that misuse this sacred word as a blasphemy. They call social order absolutism; they call social order when humanity is put into a prison; they call social order the silence of the grave. This 30th of October has presented to the world a spectacle which, once seen, I proudly proclaim that no Czars and Emperors of Austria have the right or can have the pretension to speak more of social order. Here is social order in London; and by whom watched? I had my thousands and thousands of the people rushing forward, not with the effusion of blood, but with the warm enthusiasm of noble hearts, to cheer liberty and the principle of freedom in my poor humble self. And what is the safeguard of social order in this meeting of the people? I asked the attention of Lord Dudley Stuart: 'let us look how many policemen are present. I have seen four.' Such a scene, my Lord, for the Czars and Emperors, and all men ambitious, who may be called Presidents, for they are all the same thing, no matter how called! They would have had their 20,000 bayonets, and I do not know how many open and secret spies; they would have safeguarded by arms and cannon:—what? Social order? No. Against whom? Against foes and enemies of social order? No; against their own people."

How well the orator chose his moment at Manchester to dispose of the assertion that were it not for himself and two or three other persons the European world would be peaceable and content with its present condition! He had been speaking of the imminency of the next great struggle between liberty and brute force—between the citizen and the soldier,—when he suddenly turned the flank of his opponents as follows.—

"The dragon of oppression draws near, but the St. George of liberty is ready to wrestle with him. How can I state that this struggle is so near? Why, I state it because IT IS. Every man knows it; every man feels it; every man sees it. A philosopher was once questioned how he could prove the existence of God? 'Why,' answered he, 'by opening my eyes.' God is seen everywhere. In the growth of the grass, and in the movements of the stars; in the warbling of the lark and in the thunder of the heavens. Even so I prove that the decisive struggle of mankind's destinies draws near: I appeal to the sight of your eyes, to the pulsations of your hearts, and to the judgment of your minds. You know it, you see it, you feel it, that the judgment is drawing near. How blind are those men who have the affectation to believe, or at least to assert, that it is only certain men who push the revolution on the continent of Europe, which, but for their revolutionary plots, would be quiet and content. Content! With what? With oppression and servitude? France content with its constitution turned into a pasquinade! Germany content at being but a flock of sheep pent up to be shorn by some thirty petty tyrants! Switzerland content with the threatening ambition of encroaching despots! Italy content with the King of Naples, or with the priestly Government of Rome—the worst of human invention! Austria, Bohemia, Croatia, Dalmatia, content with having been driven to butchery after having been deceived, oppressed, and laughed at as fools! Poland content with being murdered! Hungary, my poor Hungary, content with being more than murdered — buried alive. Because it is alive! * * Russia content with slavery! Vienna, Flensburg, Pesth, Lombardy, Milan, Venice, content with having been bombarded, burnt, sacked, and their population butchered! And half of Europe content with the scaffold, the hangman, the prison; with having no political rights at all, but having to pay innumerable millions for the high, beneficial purpose of being kept in serfdom? That is the condition of the continent of Europe,—and is it not ridiculous to see and to hear men prate about *individuals* disturbing the contented tranquillity of Europe?"

Nor was the question supposed by M. Kossuth to be now at issue on the European continent less clearly and strikingly placed before the same audience. The decision of this question he had told them is of interest for every people, as it may affect the fate of mankind for generations to come:—and the warning with which the passage closes had a solemn and almost Cassandrian dignity of tone.—

"No country," he said, "no nation, however proud its position, none within the boundaries of the Christian family and of European civilization, can avoid a share of the consequences of this comprehensive question, which will be the proximate fate of humanity. I scarcely need to say that this comprehensive question is whether Europe should be ruled by the principle of freedom or by the principle of despotism. To bring more home in a practical way to your generous hearts that idea of freedom, the question is whether Europe shall be ruled by the principle of centralization or by the principle of self-government. Because self-government is freedom, and centralization is absolutism. What! shall freedom die away for centuries, and mankind become nothing more than a blind instrument for the ambition of a few; or shall the brand of servitude be wiped away from the brow of humanity? Woe, a thousandfold woe, to every nation which, confident in its proud position of to-day, shall carelessly regard the all-comprehensive struggle for these great principles. It is the mythical struggle between heaven and hell. To be blessed or to be damned is the lot of all; there is no transition between heaven and hell. Woe, a thousandfold woe, to every nation which will not embrace within its sorrows and its cares the future, but only the passing moment of the present time. As the sun looms through the mist before it rises, so the future is seen in the events of the present day."

Of all the speeches made by M. Kossuth in England, that delivered at Birmingham was the most characteristic and impressive. In the main calm and logical, full of facts, and varied with figures,—it nevertheless contains some of the finest pathos and most eloquent passion in our language. The best harangues of Sheridan look cold by the side of the great Magyar's thrilling words. The exordium is perhaps not unworthy to rank with that of any of the master-pieces of eloquence—with the oration against Æschines and the First against Catiline. Thus dashed the great Hungarian, like a charge of his country's magnificent horse, at the Austrians.—

"Three years ago, yonder house of Austria—which had chiefly me to thank for not having been swept away by the revolution of Vienna in March, 1848—having in return answered by the most foul, most sacrilegious conspiracy against the chartered rights, freedom, and national existence of my native land,—it became my share, being then member of the ministry, with undisguised truth to lay before the Parliament of Hungary the immense danger of our bleeding father-land. Having made the sketch, which, however dreadful, could be but a faint shadow of the horrible reality, I proceeded to explain the alternative which our terrible destiny left to us, after the failure of all our attempts to avert the evil,—to present the neck of the realm to the deadly stroke aimed at its very life, or to bear up against the horrors of fate, and manfully to fight the battle of legitimate defence. Scarcely had I spoken the words,—scarcely had I added that the defence would require 200,000 men and 80,000,000 of florins, when the Spirit of Freedom moved through the Hall, and nearly 400 representatives rose as one man, and lifting their right arms towards God, solemnly said, 'We grant it,—freedom or death!' Thus they spoke, and there they stood, in a calm and silent majesty, awaiting what further word might fall from my lips. And for myself: it was my duty to speak, but the grandeur of the moment, and the rushing waves of sentiment benumbed my tongue. A burning tear fell from my eyes, a sigh of adoration to the Almighty Lord fluttered on my lips; and, bowing low before the majority of my people,—as I bow now before you, gentlemen,—I left the tribune silently, speechless, mute."

Here the orator paused for a moment,—and then added:—

"Pardon me my emotion,—the shadows of our martyrs pass before my eyes; I hear the millions of my native land once more shouting 'liberty or death!'"

We remember reading an account of the scene in the Hungarian Parliament to which this impressive reference is made. Kossuth's words were few,—but they acted like inspiration on the Magyar deputies. He said, amidst profound silence:—"I enter the tribune to appeal to you for saving your fatherland. I feel the awful importance of the moment; I feel as if God had placed the trumpet in my hand, to rouse the nation from her dream, and to awaken her to a new and eternal life if she yet possess vital substance, or to condemn her to everlasting death if she is cowardly." The Assembly did not even await the conclusion, but rose to a man, and unanimously adopted the motion by the exclamation "Megadjuk!" (granted!) Kossuth answered:—"That it was which I would beg of you, deputies of my country! but you anticipated me, and I deeply bow to the greatness of this nation."

Powerful and dramatic as this must be confessed to be, it is surpassed by some other passages in the orator's Birmingham address. What, for instance, in the literature of eloquence, is finer than the allusion to his own representative character?—

"You remember [he said] Paulus Æmilius, whose triumph by a whim of fate was placed between the tombs of his two sons. You remember his quite Roman words—'*Cladem domûs meæ vestra felicitas consolatur.*' Were there anything in the world able to console a Magyar for the misfortunes of his father-land, here is the place where I would repeat the words of yonder Roman son! But, alas! even here where I am, and so surrounded as I am, still I feel myself a homeless exile,—and all that I see carries back my memory to my down-trodden land. Sorrow takes deeper root in human breasts than joys; one must be an exile, and the home of the poor exile must be suffering as mine is, that the heart of man can feel the boundless intensity of the love of home. Strange it may appear to you, the roots of my life are not within myself, my individuality is absorbed in this thought, 'Freedom and Fatherland!' What is the key of that boundless faith and trust my people bear to me, their plain unpretending brother,—a faith and confidence seldom to be met in like manner in his way? What is the key of it,—that this faith, this confidence, stands still fast, neither troubled by the deluge of calumnies, nor broken by adversities? It is that my people took, and take me still, for the incarnated personification of their wishes, their sentiments, their affections, and their hopes. Is it not then quite natural that the woes of my people also should be embodied in myself? I have the concentrated woes of millions of Magyars in my breast. And allow me, gentlemen, a sort of national self esteem in that respect. * * To me, a Hungarian, that sort of sentiment may not be becoming which befits a British man, who, whatever be his personal merits, puts—and with right—his greatest pride in the idea to be a citizen of Great Britain; still, allow me to prostrate myself in spirit, before the memory of my suffering people; allow me to bear witness before you, that the people of Magyars can take, with noble self-esteem, a place in the great

family of nations; allow me, even in view of your greatness, to proclaim that I feel proud to be a Magyar. While, during our holy struggle, we were secluded from the world, our enemies, wanting to cover their crimes by lies, told you the tale that we are in Hungary but an insignificant party, and this party fanaticised by myself. Well, I feel proud at my country's strength. They stirred up by foul delusions to the fury of civil war our Croat, Wallach, Serb, and Slovach brethren against us. It did not suffice. The house of Austria poured all his forces upon us; still it would not do. We beat them down! The proud dynasty had to stoop at the foot of the Czar. He thrust his legions upon us. * * Afterwards, the scorned party turned out to be a nation, and a valiant one; but still they said it is I who inspired it. Perhaps there might be some glory in inspiring such a nation, and to such a degree. But I cannot accept the praise. No; it is not I who inspired the Hungarian people,—it was the Hungarian people who inspired me. Whatever I thought, and still think,—whatever I felt, and still feel,—it is but a feeble pulsation of that heart which in the breast of my people beats. The glory of battles is ascribed to the leaders, in history—theirs are the laurels of immortality. And yet on meeting the danger, they knew that, alive or dead, their name will upon the lips of the people for ever live. How different, how purer, is the light spread on the image of thousands of the people's sons, who, knowing that where they fall they will lie unknown, their names unhonoured and unsung, but who, nevertheless, animated by the love of freedom and fatherland, went on calmly, singing national anthems, against the batteries whose cross-fire vomited death and destruction on them, and took them without firing a shot—they who fell, falling with the shout, 'hurrah for Hungary!' And so they died by thousands, the unnamed demigods."

Not less lofty in tone and poetical in thought is the following paragraph.—

"Still they say it is I who have inspired them. No; a thousand times, no! It is they who have inspired me. The moment of death, gentlemen, is a dreary one. Even the features of Cato partook of the impression of this dreariness. A shadow passed over the brow of Socrates on drinking the hemlock cup. With us, those who beheld the nameless victims of the love of country, lying on the death field beneath Buda's walls, met but the expression of a smile on the frozen lips of the dead, and the dying answered those who would console, but by the words, 'Never mind; Buda is ours. Hurrah for the fatherland!' so they spoke and died. He who witnessed such scenes, not as an exception, but as a constant rule,—he who saw the adolescent weep when told he was yet too young to die for his land; he who saw the sacrifices of spontaneity; he who heard what a fury spread over the people on hearing of the catastrophe; he who marked his behaviour towards the victors, after all was lost; he who knows what sort of curse is mixed in the prayers of the Magyar, and knows what sort of sentiment is burning alike in the breast of the old and of the young, of the strong man and of the tender wife—and ever will be burning on, till the hour of national resurrection strikes—he who is aware of all this will surely bow before this people with respect, and will acknowledge, with me, that such a people wants not to be inspired, but that it is an everlasting source of inspiration itself. This is the people of Hungary!"

Of the two collections of M. Kossuth's speeches whose titles are placed at the head of this article we need not say much,—since we cannot say anything in their favour. Got up in haste to meet a sudden demand, they are almost of necessity extremely imperfect. Some of the earlier speeches are best reported by Mr. Gilpin:—but the last and greatest, the address at Birmingham, is very badly given in his copy. Messrs. Bradbury & Evans render an excellent report of the Birmingham speech,—and it is from their edition that we have taken our illustrative extracts:—but their other reports are often meagre and unsatisfactory.

Beatson's Political Index Modernised: [being] the Book of Dignities; containing Rolls of the Official Personages of the British Empire, Civil, Ecclesiastical, Judicial, Military, Naval and Municipal, from the Earliest Period, &c. By Joseph Haydn. Longman & Co.

Beatson's Political Index has obtained more than its full share of reputation. It is neither full nor accurate; but it has long been the only book attempting to supply a want commonly felt by historical students. Beatson was a bookseller's hack of more industry than was ordinarily met with at that time in authors of his condition:—but he draws from common, and not very trustworthy, sources of information. His book therefore by no means supplies that kind of knowledge on which the student may rely. His dates must be looked on as only approximations to truth,—as means to assist the student in arriving at the precise facts which he is anxious to obtain. To say that such or such is the date in 'Beatson' would go but a little way with accurate inquirers. No historical student with any love for precision would found a correction of any moment on a date set down by Beatson. The student would hesitate before he said that either Sir William Dugdale or Sir Harris Nicolas was in the wrong,—but he would not in any case correct either by a reference to the 'Political Index.'

We wish we could say that Mr. Haydn was a Sir William Dugdale or a Sir Harris Nicolas:—but he is only a better kind of Beatson. There are merit and industry in his book. He has gone at times to records, to MSS., and to official sources of information,—or rather he has allowed others to go for him. He has had assistance from Mr. Duffus Hardy, from Mr. Thomas, and from Mr. Black,—all antiquaries of name connected with our Record Offices; but he has not seemingly availed himself of the privileges granted to literary men by the present Master of the Rolls—if indeed that privilege has yet taken any more active form than that of a privilege on paper—and blackened his own fingers, free of expense, with parchments and vellums, entries and letters patent. No really good Political Index can be made without such repeated blackenings of the fingers; and Mr. Haydn's book is not really a good book, but only a better kind of 'Beatson,' because he has not had recourse to rolls and enrolment books,—the only true authorities for the information which he professes to furnish.

It has puzzled us to discover what restricted limitation Mr. Haydn assigns to a 'Dictionary of Dignities.' He inserts Captains of the Yeomen of the Guard,—and omits the Lieutenants and Constables of the Tower. He gives lists of Serjeants-at-Law and Recorders of London,—but not a list of Cromwell's Peers. He supplies a lengthy catalogue of Majors-General,—but omits all reference to the Lords Wardens of the Marches and to Governors of Windsor Castle and of the Isle of Wight. We should not particularly care to see a chronological list of Sewers in Ordinary or Yeomen of the Mouth,—but we should like to have had a list of Poets Laureate, because Selden dwells learnedly on the dignity in his 'Titles of Honor.' We would have lists of Royal Historiographers—of Kings' Painters—of Surveyors of Works under the Crown—of Chief Engravers to the Crown—of Masters of the Revels—of Lords Justices who ruled over England during the visits of George the First and George the Second to their much-loved Hanover. We would have had lists of Keepers of the Back Stairs and of the Privy Purse, including, as they would, Will Chiffinch and Bap May. We would have had a catalogue of Clerks of the Acts, including, as it would, the name of Mr. Pepys. We would insert in a 'Dictionary of Dignities' or in a new 'Titles of Honor' Presidents of the Royal Society—Presidents of the Royal Academy—Governors of the Bank—Chairmen of the East India Company—Masters of the Trinity House,—every dignity, indeed, likely to be of service to the historical student:—particularly specifying in all cases whether the dates given are those of election or nomination or of letters patent,—points on which Mr. Haydn is provokingly loose. Care should be taken to separate offices and officers from after offices of a somewhat similar character:—for Mr. Haydn hashes together the Paymasters of the Forces and the Paymasters General. The demand on the part of the public for such a work, it may be said, would not repay either the compiler or the publisher:—but of this we have doubts. We live in days when accurate knowledge of any useful description is more largely sought after than at any other time. Books of reference meet with a steady demand. Speaking in the language of the trade,—there is no *waste* in a well done dictionary of any kind.

When Mr. Haydn reprints his 'Beatson's Political Index Modernised' he will improve his work very much if he omits the numerous foot-notes which he has inserted,—taken, as they are, too commonly from writers of very little authority. Brief and accurately compiled biographical notices would add materially to the value of a 'Dictionary of Dignities,'—while "characters," however brief, if from authorities of little value, detract from it, and add, as very thick paper also here does, to the bulk and to the price of the book.

The Pappenheimers: A Novel. Edited by Capt. Ashton. 3 vols. Bentley.

It is hazarding little to assert that this military romance must be a translation from the German. Most fitly has its English version been placed under military protection and editorship. A long autumn day once upon a time spent in the midst of a Prussian review did not send us home at night more thoroughly impressed, not to say confused, by the several explosions of drum, trumpet, and petronel than the perusal of this novel has done,—so crowded is it with sacks, battles, marches and counter-marches. The preponderance of these makes it almost too monotonous a book to please any public save that of "the service." Yet to satisfy military readers it may not prove sufficiently exact and practical. A battle is a difficult thing to paint, to describe, to dramatize. Still, we have such examples as the Pisa cartoon—the encounter at Loudon Hill in 'Old Mortality'—the heart-wringing interview betwixt *Thekla* and the soldier in 'Wallenstein'—to show us what picturesque, simple, and forcible works of Art may be drawn from the histories of war and of warriors by painter, novelist, and dramatist of genius.—Here, the writer has taken up a German history of well-known campaigns, and gone in due form and order from the destruction of Magdeburg to the battle of Leipsic and from the battle of Leipsic to the battle of Lützen. He shows small power over character,—since both his Tilly and his Pappenheim more closely resemble patterns for embroidery than portraits in oil, bronze or marble; and, possibly aware of his limited competence, he has sought to busy himself in the camp, the powder-magazine, and the drilling ground. Some personages, however, there must be to work the machinery of his romance; and these are, the desolate Anna in love with Pappenheim, the holy Hedwig, her sister, and the Hauptmann La Croix, who is renegade, ravisher, slanderer, coward, and blasphemer, all in one,—

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yet, somehow, so weak a villain that we cannot muster any comfortable amount of fear let him come or go ever so portentously.—One of the best scenes in the novel is that in which, being desirous of entering into a compact with the Evil One, the Hauptmann aforesaid makes a Harz pilgrimage, according to the direction of an old soldier, through whose intervention the precious neophyte imagines that the infernal treaty had been already opened.—

"On the road La Croix sought to inform himself about all things, and put several questions to his guide, who, however, could answer but few; and he could learn only thus much, that the hunting Lodge, situated at the foot of the Brocken, and called Scharfenstein, was universally shunned, and nobody liked having anything to do with the old man and his beasts, and still less with the old witch of a servant; the saying also went that the place was haunted, especially on Walpurgis Night. While engaged in this discourse they plunged deeper into the forest; the storm howled fearfully, and shook the old pine-trees till they struck crackling against each other; the snow fell in thick flakes; the wild boar rushed past them with a startled grunt; and the heathcock, driven from tree to tree by the tempest, rustled through the air on his broad wings. All nature seemed astir. As they attained the open place mentioned by the old reiter, they saw in the distance a welcome sight, the smoke of a chimney curling amid the snow-storm, through the tops of the fir-trees. 'There is where he lives,' said the coal-burner, 'and now give me my guerdon, and let me go, for I'll follow ye no further.' Contrary to his usual habit, La Croix paid the lad, probably the first time long since that he had given money, instead of taking it; and when the man had left him he urged his horse forward, the old domestic behind him muttering, 'we shall ride into the devil's jaws I suppose at last.' A singular feeling took possession of him, but he rode on cheerfully, for it would seem that La Croix was more afraid of mankind than of Satan. So they trotted on through storm and wind until they beheld the Hunting Lodge before them; it was a fine looking building, and as it stood out from among the fir-covered rocks, might well be called kindly looking, and certainly had no evil appearance. The spacious court-yard and the house which stood at the end of it, had nothing affrighting about them; however, as they pursued the road, which here gave a curve, and came opposite to the entrance, the servant suddenly exclaimed, shivering like an aspen:—'Oh, Sir, only look, look at the awful companions who spite of storm or weather watch the old man's dwelling.' La Croix now descried some singular figures, which sentinel like, stood on the right and left of the open gate; they were upright skeletons, their bony hands supported on great cudgels, but on their bodies stood no human skulls; here was one with the skull of a bear; there again that of a stag of twelve with stately antlers; another had that of a wolf; and another a fox; altogether a ghastly brotherhood, which seemed to hold here watch and ward. La Croix's horse started, and began to snort, and stared at the white figures, breathing hard. The servant made the sign of the cross three times towards them, as moved by the wind they rattled fearfully. La Croix, howbeit not of the most valiant nature, yet somehow fancied that in virtue of his thrice seven drops, he had a certain claim to such society; he gave his horse the spur, and after a considerable struggle the frightened animal sprung past the skeletons into the court, followed by the domestic's beast. No barking of dogs greeted them here, the whole court seemed as if dead. An old mangy hound alone came creeping out of his kennel, but seemed to trouble himself very little about them. The house door was shut, and La Croix dismounted to open it; found it locked, he knocked, but no one opened; no living being was to be seen. The storm still raged, the wind whistled cold, and his cloak scarcely protected him. Even the horses trembled with the cold. La Croix grew impatient, and thundered at the door with a stake, which he found in the court, and at this noise an upper lattice was opened, and a nose appeared, then a pointed chin, and such a pair of eyes, that La Croix shrunk back; and at the question:—'What's your will? no one is at home, and I will not open to you,' nearly lost his self-possession; so ghost-like was the figure that greeted him. 'Open the door, Mother Trude,' cried he, at length recollecting himself, 'and don't leave an old fellow-soldier of your master's standing so long here in a snow-storm; he will give you scant thanks for it when he returns home.'—'Who are you, then?' demanded the old woman."

We must go on to the end, with some abridgment.—

"Shortly after, with a fearful yelping and howling, the pack entered the court, followed by the Jäger himself. As he strode across the court, he was speaking to the old woman with his head turned the other way, so that the Hauptmann could not see his face. He shook his head dubiously once or twice, gave his hunting-spear and a light gun which he carried on his shoulder to the old woman at the door, and after shaking the snow from him, entered the apartment. La Croix advanced to meet him. 'Pardon,' said he, 'that a traveller astray has sought the shelter of your roof, and has induced your old servant to give him an admission by an untruth.'—'Through an untruth?' asked the Jäger, laying aside his wolf *Pelz;* 'how so?'—'I told her that you knew me.'—'Now is that not so? Lieut. La Croix, of Bernstorf's Company, in the regiment of Götz, is well known to me.' La Croix looked at him with surprise; 'but that you have come astray is not true,' pursued the Jäger. 'You seek for hidden knowledge, and think to find it here,' continued he, after a pause, casting his fur-cap on a bench, and replacing it by the green cap with the heathcock's feather. 'As it is two leagues from here to Ilsenburg, and I can give you no guide, and you cannot remain under the same roof with me, I beg of you to lay your business quickly before me.' During this time La Croix had been narrowly regarding the old man. The wild huntsman he was not—not a bit like him. He was an honest-looking, respectable figure, whose countenance was, indeed, disfigured by a cut, and whose dark eyes seemed to pierce into the heart. He scarcely recognized the old Reiter's picture; the ten devils which the latter had fancied about the old man's mouth, he could trace, for mere mockery, more scorn had the Hauptmann never seen any mouth express. La Croix seated himself, and emptied the drops from the jug which the old woman had set before him. His host observed it, but did not whistle to her to refill it for him. 'You are fast,' began La Croix.—The Jäger was silent.—'I wish to become a sharer in such a fortune, and come to you to request you to guide me to the attainment of this object. My will is firm, and I am resolved to offer up all that is required. Would you a reward for your labour? You have but to ask.'—The old man had kept his eye fixed on La Croix while he spoke.—'Hauptmann La Croix,' said he, contemptuously, 'the cuirassier whom I met to-day as a Holkish Reiter at the charcoal-burners' huts was deceived by me, and has deceived you. I am as little fast as you are. If 'twere this belief gave you courage in the storm of Klosterberg, thank chance that the balls missed you, and hold that you have not paid too dearly your escape, with four doubloons, and swallowing a few drops of ox-gall. Before I held a protection from Tilly, I was compelled to play this farce, as I, myself an old and experienced soldier, well knew that in this wild place I could not protect myself better against the soldiery than by such devil's tricks. And now ye know all, and so ride on your way, and God be with you, if that is possible."

All true readers of romance—tired of the skull and cross-bones usually exhibited in scenes like this, or yet more averse to those humiliating after-explanations which reduce the terrors of *Ethelinda* and the forebodings of *Wilibald* to the emotions of stalls at Signor Bosco's show and of dress-boxes at M. Robin's theatre—will feel obliged to the author of 'The Pappenheimers' for the new turn to an old scene given in the above passage. But the greater part of the book is too unreal. The love-lorn heroines have the air of fancy-ball emotion and surprise; and the great generals and men of war, as has been indicated, are clad in pasteboard armour fit enough to make a show in the 'Château des Déserts,'—but little like the "gloves of steel and helmets barred" of the real storm-spirits who played such conspicuous parts in German history.

ALMANACS AND POCKET-BOOKS.

Foremost amongst the almanacs for the coming year now lying on our table—that is, foremost amongst those not addressed to a special interest or to a particular class of readers—is, Mr. Charles Knight's *British Almanac and Companion.* Of this old and general favourite, it is hardly necessary for us to say that, besides the usual tabular and technical information found in such yearly compendiums, it contains original papers on Mathematics, Natural History, Philosophy, Chronology, Geography, and Statistics, together with a brief history and *résumé* of the Legislation, public improvements, and general march of domestic events for the past year. The original papers given in the present 'Companion' comprise—"A short Account of some recent Discoveries in England and Germany, relative to the Controversy on the Invention of Fluxions," by Prof. De Morgan,—"Great Exhibition of 1851: Facts and Figures,"—a Summary of the recent Census Returns,—an article on the County Courts,—a record of Railway progress for the year,—a comparison of the Public Debts and Standing Armies of the European States,—and a table of Fluctuations in the Funds. One defect we notice in the present 'Companion,'—to which we call attention for the sake of future publications. For a series of years this work has given a report of the principal architectural improvements and buildings, which, though unavoidably imperfect, yet furnishes the architectural historian with useful materials. The new volume manifests an evident falling off in this department. Not only does it—contrary to former practice,—give scarcely any description of the buildings which it does mention,—but it takes no notice whatever of some of the chief works now in progress. Not a syllable is said concerning what, however it may turn out as a structure, deserved certainly to be spoken of as an important addition to our public buildings,—viz. the Record Office—now in course of being erected from the designs of Mr. Pennethorne. It is strange, too, that so conspicuous an object as the Rotunda in the centre of Leicester Square should either have escaped the architectural annalist's attention, or have been deemed unworthy of being commemorated by him. That edifice is only a private speculation, it is true; but it is one that puts to shame many of our public, or *quasi*-public, buildings. There is positive evidence of the artist in it. Somewhat remarkable is it, also, that no mention is made of the re-erection of the Marble Arch in Hyde Park, after so much had been said in the 'Companion' itself with regard to another site for that piece of architecture. Similarly ignored by the writer in the 'Companion' are—the Railway Terminus at King's Cross,—the Hotel at the Paddington station,—the very singular-looking church in Margaret Street, Cavendish Square,—Mr. Holford's mansion in Park Lane, and several other edifices of mark.—The last-mentioned building, if report may be trusted, is not only to vie with, but to surpass our most aristocratic mansions in internal display and in the capaciousness of the apartments.—Neither is what the architectural annalist of the 'Companion' does say of the few buildings which he mentions so satisfactory as might be wished. It is, for instance, but a tantalizing sort of information which informs us merely that the addition made by Mr. Wightwick to the Public Library at Plymouth "has an Italian *palazzo* front, with Greek details, and is the most ornate building in the town." If it

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deserves such a character, it surely deserved also something like positive description to enable us to shape it out generally,—instead of being left in vague and indistinct presentment.

The Fine Arts Almanac, or Artist's Remembrancer, commenced three years ago, adheres to the plan with which it opened, and has already collected a large mass of general information on the history and biography of Art and artists. The account of various Societies, public and private, connected with Art, and the appended lists of those who live by the use of brush, chisel, or needle in England, must, of course, render the little volume welcome to all members of the craft. Its more general contents will have an interest for classes beyond and larger than these—the ordinary reading public.

Pretty, as usual,—and aiming at being little more,—*Putney's Ladies' Fashionable Repository* appears, in its blue cover, to make its annual appeal to the classes for whom it has long catered. Certainly, its singing is not of a very enthralling class:—but we have in it a spirited rendering by Mrs. Howitt of the 'Danish National Anthem,'—which may interest some of our readers—poetical and others.—

King Christian stood by the lofty mast,
In smoke and night:
His sword dealt blows so full and fast,
Through Swedish helms and skulls they pam'd;
Down sank each hostile spar and mast,
Mid smoke and night.
Fly! cried they, fly! fly all who can,
Who can face Denmark's Christian,
In fight?

Nils Juul he heard the tempests blow,
Stand for your life!
Aloft he bade the red flag go,
Strike upon strike he dealt the foe;
They cried aloud, while tempests blow,
Stand for your life!
Fly, cried they all, to shelter fly!
For who can Denmark's Juul defy,
In strife?

Oh, sea! the fires of Vessel * drave
Through smoke-cloud dread,
Then to thy bosom rushed the brave,
With him hushed terror and the grave:
The ramparts heard the roar which drave
The storm-cloud dread:
From Denmark thunders Tordenskiold †
To Heaven for aid they all appealed,
And fled!

Thou Danish path of fame and night,
Oh gloomy sea!
Receive thy friend, who for the right
Dares danger face, in death's despite,
Proudly as thou the tempests' might,
Oh gloomy sea!
And lead me on, though storms may rave,
Through strife and victory to my grave,
With thee.

The blind Bard so well known to the readers of the *Athenæum*, Miss Frances Brown, contributes, as usual, a variety of pieces to *Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book, and Poetical Miscellany*. This year, she has a singular Eastern tale in prose and several slight legends and sentiments in verse:—all marked by the graceful fancy and deep feeling that characterize a Muse whose singing, like the nightingale's, has ever a touch of sadness caught from the night amid which she sings.—We extract a poem entitled 'The Woodland Waits.'—

The trees were tall and leafy
Around our home that grew,
Where a noble German river ran
The green old forest through.
The wild fawn and the stately stag
Went by our open door,
And the birds about our cottage eaves
They sang for evermore.

'Twas sweet on April's morning,
'Twas sweet in summer's noon,
And when above the tallest pines
Uprose the harvest moon:
To hear our children's laughter ring
From out the ancient shade,
Or the music in our land's old songs
Their mingled voices made.

And when the winds blew colder
At the good Christmas time,
They gathered round our woodland hearth
With sport, and tale, and rhyme.
The traveller marked our evening fire
Far through the frost-gemmed boughs,
But I know how bright its red light fell
Upon their fair young brows.

'Twas first our rosy fingered
That pined away and died,
And then our thoughtful Ludovic
We laid him by her side.
And last our little fair Louise,
I think we lored her best,
Smiled on us as we watched one night,
And went with them to rest.

That was a glorious summer
On sky, and stream, and tree;
But wearily its bright days went
With Earnestine and me.
We toiled together in the fields
For many a sultry day,
Yet our hearts were in our children's graves
By the old church far away.

The woods wore autumn's riches,
The beechen nuts grew free,
The stormy winds of winter came
And shook the red leaves down,
And we had worked, and we had prayed,
And said we would not grieve,
But the cottage was a dreary place
As felt that Christmas eve.

The frost was on the forest,
The full moon in the sky,
And we tried to cheer each other's hearts,
My Earnestine and I,
With talk of far-off Christmas times,
And how the blythe waits sung
At midnight in the brave old town
We left when we were young.

But oh! the worldless memories
Came over us thick and fast,
With glad young voices ringing back
From all the nearer past!
We thought of those who wrestled our door
With kelly boughs and leaves,
And sung their joyous lay in moonlight there
On other Christmas eves.

There rose a sound of singing
Close by our cottage door,
And such a strain the sleeping woods
Had never heard before.
You'll say it was a dream—but well
We knew the voices three—
For our own loved children sang that night
To Earnestine and me!

They sang so hymn nor carol
Our mortal could discern,
But, friend, it was that blessed song
No earthly lips may learn.
For we have long grown dim of sight
And grey of hair since then,
And sat by many a winter's fire
But never grieved again.

It told us they were shadows
That seemed our lives to bound,
That all the changed would yet be true
And all the lost be found!
And I have wished that many a heart
Whom sorrow's waves wash o'er,
Had heard the woodland waits that sang
Beside our cottage door.

Passing from the region of sentiment to that of fact,—Parker's *Family Almanac and Educational Register* will give the reader interested in education an immense amount of carefully collected and well tabulated information about the universities, colleges and institutions, foundations and grammar-schools, training institutions for teachers, and so on:—together with a succinct history of the progress of popular education in England, both as a doctrine and as a material fact; but chiefly so far as the movement has connected itself with the Church of England.—*Dietrichsen and Hannay's* excellent and well-known *Royal Almanac* contains the usual amount of useful and well digested information which have insured it so large a circulation.—*Glenny's Garden Almanac and Florist's Directory, for the year* 1852 contains directions for the management of an amateur's garden throughout the year, lists of show flowers, fruits and vegetables, new plants and flowers, and other information interesting to those persons who cultivate their own roses, private or professional.—*The Farmer's Almanac and Calendar for* 1852 is addressed to a special audience, and is distinguished by its copious list of country fairs.—*The Reformer's Almanac and Political Year Book* keeps up its fire at all ancient abuses:—doing, in its dry and statistic fashion, good service in many causes.—*Letts's Diary*, No. 10, for 1852 retains the usual features of interest which have made it almost a necessity to the man of business.—Several provincial newspapers, we observe, are beginning to publish sheet Almanacs for the cottage and the counting-house:—the proprietors of the *Manchester Examiner and Times*, for example, have issued such an almanac, which aims at making for itself a place in the series of such publications by the attention paid to local matters.—*Raphael* and *Zadkiel* continue their trade in the credulity of mankind:—growing more and more boastful, vulgar, illogical and mendacious year by year.

Among the cheap popular Almanacs several are now making an attempt to combine something of popular artistic illustration with the more solid attractions of literary and statistical matter. In some of these we meet with many ancient friends in new vestment:—old lay figures with new heads and the like, to suit change of subject and circumstance. Still, some have sufficient merit to constitute something of an educational power in the cottage and farm-house, hitherto familiar with only the hardest outlines and fiercest of tints in their pictorial embellishments. Of these, *The Illustrated London Almanac* is the best in point of illustration,—and perhaps also in general contents and character. It avoids the common fault of merely ephemeral works—the re-production year after year of the same matter. Last year statistics were the great feature; this year considerable space is given to the pictorial and literary illustration of the modern progress of astronomy.—Mr. Clarke's *Crystal Palace Almanac* for 1852 is of similar nature,—with a different choice of subjects. Here, as the name would suggest, the artists deal chiefly with the pictorial features of the Exhibition; and they may in this convenient and economical form render its great aspects familiar to many who were denied the advantage of seeing it for themselves.—*The Illustrated Exhibitor Almanac* possesses the usual features of a popular almanac with the addition of a series of illustrated months in various countries; some few of which illustrations—old or new—have considerable artistic merit. We would particularly single out the four 'Seasons,' by Johannot, as likely to administer in their degree to the growing popular taste for the beautiful in design and execution.—The *Bookseller's Almanac* is an illustrated work of a different kind from the above. It is a handsome broad sheet, inclosed in a very graceful border, and appropriately headed by an excellent coloured lithographic view of the Booksellers' Provident Retreat at Abbots Langley, in Hertfordshire.

A Hand-Book of the English Language, for the Use of Students of the Universities and higher Classes of Schools. By R. G. Latham, M.D. Taylor & Co.

The study of the English language has of late received more attention, and been pursued in a more philosophical spirit, than formerly. Englishmen are beginning to feel the inconsistency of knowing less about the theory of their own tongue than of that of any other. The contention is gaining ground, that the English language, if not so scientific as the Greek or the German, may be made almost as valuable a means of intellectual culture in the hands of a competent instructor. To acquire a critical knowledge of English, the several elements of which it is composed, the relative proportions of each, the changes that they have undergone, and the way in which they were at first introduced and have since amalgamated together,

* The Admiral.
† The Admiral Vessel which received the title of Tordenskjold after this battle.

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demands a good deal of patient investigation. Add to this, a thorough comprehension and ready command of all the terms of the language;—and it will at once be evident that no Englishman can be really master of his language without having gone through a course of study beneficial as a discipline of the mind, and fraught with information which a due regard to national feeling must make him anxious to receive. The deficiency of inflections, the numerous anomalies, and the other imperfections which may be considered drawbacks to our tongue as a means of education, are more than counterbalanced by the fact of its *being* our tongue, and spreading over so vast a portion of the inhabited world.

No man has done more than Dr. Latham to place the study of English on its proper footing. By his philosophical treatment of it, he has raised it to the dignity which it deserves,—and shown that, while an essential in the earliest education of children, it is not unworthy to hold a high place in college pursuits. His present work is a sort of medium between his large and school grammars. It is rendered much more interesting, as well as more useful, to a student than the school grammar, by containing not merely a greater number of facts, but also a more copious discussion of principles and a fuller explanation of the origin and reasons of particular usages. On the other hand, it is less abstruse and more practical than the large work on the English language.—It begins with an account of the "General Ethnological Relations of the English Language," followed by a "History and Analysis of the English Language." This portion of the volume contains much historical and ethnological information. It also describes the leading characteristics of the tongue at different periods, and points out some of the tendencies of the present age. Then follow about fifty pages on "sounds, letters, pronunciation, spelling;" in which we find a complete list of all the simple sounds, with their various combinations,—some excellent remarks on the alphabet, its history, deficiencies, and redundancies,—the laws which regulate the changes of letters in different connexions, and the reasons on which these laws are founded,—with an explanation of accent and quantity.

The next part treats of Etymology,—and occupies a much larger space. Dr. Latham having previously explained the principles on which the changes of letters rest, is enabled to make the reader easily understand how the apparently anomalous forms of the plural number have originated. As the Possessive Case is not generally understood correctly, we will cite what is here stated on the subject.—

"*The true nature of the genitive form in 's.*—It is a common notion that the genitive form *father's* is contracted from *father his*. The expression in our liturgy, *for Jesus Christ his sake*, which is merely a pleonastic one, is the only foundation for this assertion. As the idea, however, is not only one of the commonest, but also one of the greatest errors in etymology, the following three statements are given for the sake of contradiction to it. 1, The expression the *Queen's Majesty* is not capable of being reduced to the *Queen his Majesty*. 2, In the form *his* itself, the *s* has precisely the power that it has in *father's*, &c. Now *his* cannot be said to arise out of *he* + *his*. 3, In the Slavonic, Lithuanic, and classical tongues, the genitive ends in *s*, just as it does in English; so that even if the words *father his* would account for the English word *father's*, it would not account for the Sanskrit genitive *pad as*, of a foot; the Zend *dugh-dhar-s*, of a daughter; the Lithuanic *dugter-s*; the Greek ὀδόντ-ος; the Latin *dent-is*, &c."

The whole of this subject of Etymology is handled in a most masterly manner. All peculiarities of inflection are carefully considered, and, if possible, traced to their true origin, or referred to some general law. It is wonderful how few inexplicable anomalies are allowed to remain after Dr. Latham has brought his powerful analysis to bear upon them. By making free use of the Anglo-Saxon, and occasionally of other languages, he gives the reader a thorough insight into all the varieties of inflection and formation. His account of the Verb is highly instructive.

Syntax and Prosody are the topics discussed in the remainder of the work:—the former naturally engrossing by far the greatest share of attention. Here, too, a truly philosophical spirit prevails. In explaining rules of construction Dr. Latham goes to the root of the matter, and shows the dependence of the laws of language upon those of thought. He decides in all disputed or doubtful cases by a reference to the idea intended to be conveyed, rather than to the external form of the words used. We give as an instance the following passage from the chapter on the "Concord of Verbs."—

"In respect to the concord of person, the following rules will carry us through a portion of the difficulties.—

"*Rule.*—In sentences, where there is but one proposition, when a noun and a pronoun of different persons are in apposition, the verb agrees with the first of them,—*I, your master, command you* (not *commands*): *your master, I, commands you* (not *command*).

"To understand the nature of the difficulty, it is necessary to remember that subjects may be extremely complex, as well as perfectly simple; and that a complex subject may contain, at one and the same time, a noun substantive and a pronoun,—*I, the keeper; he, the merchant*, &c. Now, all noun-substantives are naturally of the third person,—*John speaks, the men run, the commander gives orders*. Consequently, the verb is of the third person also. But the pronoun with which such a noun-substantive may be placed in apposition, may be a pronoun of either person, the first or second: *I* or *thou*—*I the commander*—*thou the commander*.—In this case the construction requires consideration. With which does the verb agree? with the substantive which requires a third person? or with the pronoun which requires a first or second? Undoubtedly, the idea which comes first is the leading idea; and, undoubtedly, the idea which explains, qualifies, or defines it, is the subordinate idea: and, undoubtedly, it is the leading idea which determines the construction of the verb. We may illustrate this from the analogy of a similar construction in respect to number,—*a man with a horse and a gig meets me on the road*. Here the ideas are three; nevertheless, the verb is singular. No addition of subordinate elements interferes with the construction that is determined by the leading idea. In the expression *I, your master*, the ideas are two; *viz.* the idea expressed by *I*, and the idea expressed by *master*. Nevertheless, as the one only explains or defines the other, the construction is the same as if the idea were single. *Your master, I*, is in the same condition. The general statement is made concerning the *master*, and it is intended to say what *he* does. The word *I* merely defines the expression by stating who the master is. Of the two expressions the latter is the awkwardest. The construction, however, is the same for both. From the analysis of the structure of complex subjects of the kind in question, combined with a rule concerning the position of the subject which will soon be laid down, I believe that, for all single propositions, the foregoing rule is absolute.

"*Rule.*—In all single propositions the verb agrees in person with the noun (whether substantive or pronoun) which comes first.

"But the expression *it is I your master, who command* (or *commands*) *you*, is not a single proposition. It is a sentence containing two propositions.—

1. *It is I.*
2. *Who commands you.*

Here the word *master* is, so to say, undistributed. It may belong to either clause of the sentence, i.e. the whole sentence may be divided into

Either—*it is I your master*—
Or—*your master who commands you.*

This is the first point to observe. The next is, that the verb in the second clause (*command* or *commands*) is governed, not by either the personal pronoun or the substantive, but by the relative,—i.e., in the particular case before us, not by either *I* or *master*, but by *who*. And this brings us to the following question—with which of the two antecedents does the *relative* agree? with *I* or with *master*?

"This may be answered by the two following rules;—*Rule* 1.—When the two antecedents are in the same proposition, the relative agrees with the first. Thus—

1. It is *I your master*—
2. Who *command you.*

Rule 2.—When the two antecedents are in different propositions, the relative agrees with the second. Thus—

1. It is *I*—
2. Your *master* who *commands* you.

This, however, is not all. What determines whether the two antecedents shall be in the same or in different propositions? I believe that the following rules for what may be called *the distribution of the substantive antecedent* will bear criticism.

"*Rule* 1.—That when there is any natural connexion between the substantive antecedent and the verb governed by the relative, the antecedent belongs to the second clause. Thus, in the expression just quoted, the word *master* is logically connected with the word *command*; and this fact makes the expression, *It is I your master who commands you*, the better of the two.

"*Rule* 2.—That when there is no natural connexion between the substantive antecedent and the verb governed by the relative, the antecedent belongs to the first clause. *It is I, John, who command* (not *commands*) *you.*

"To recapitulate, the train of reasoning has been as follows:—1. The person of the second verb is the person of the relative. 2. The person of the relative is that of one of two antecedents. 3. Of such two antecedents the relative agrees with the one which stands in the same proposition with itself. 4. Which position is determined by the connexion or want of connexion between the substantive antecedent and the verb governed by the relative.

"Respecting the person of the verb in the *first* proposition of a complex sentence there is no doubt. *I, your master, who commands you to make haste, am* (not *is*) *in a hurry*. Here, *I am in a hurry* is the first proposition; *who commands you to make haste*, the second. It is not difficult to see why the construction of sentences consisting of two propositions is open to an amount of latitude which is not admissible in the construction of single propositions. As long as the different parts of a complex idea are contained within the limits of a single proposition, their subordinate character is easily discerned. When, however, they amount to whole propositions, they take the appearance of being independent members of the sentence."

With regard to the use of the subjunctive mood, Dr. Latham lays down the simple principle, that whenever both conditionality and uncertainty are implied—no matter what conjunction, or pronoun, or other part of speech is employed—then, and then only, the verb must be in the subjunctive mood. We have a little doubt as to the correctness of what follows.—

"Whenever two or more pronouns of different persons, and of the *singular* number, follow each other *disjunctively*, the question of concord arises. *I or you,—you or he,—he or I*. I believe, that, in these cases, the rule is as follows:—1. Whenever the words *either* or *neither* precede the pronouns, the verb is in the third person. *Either you or I is in the wrong; neither you nor I is in the wrong.* 2. Whenever the disjunctive is simple (i.e. unaccompanied with the word *either* or *neither*) the verb agrees with the *first* of the two pronouns.

I (or *he*) *am* in the wrong.
He (or *I*) *is* in the wrong.
Thou (or *he*) *art* in the wrong.
He (or *thou*) *is* in the wrong."

We need only say, in conclusion, that the

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English student is deeply indebted to Dr. Latham for this valuable addition to his labours.

Daughter Deborah. By the Author of 'The Miser's Secret.' 3 vols. Saunders & Otley.

These volumes are dedicated to the "Gentlemen of the Press of England,"—owing to whose encouragement of his former effort the author has found courage to present himself a second time before the public. We cannot charge ourselves with any large amount of that encouragement which being a critical sin the author has here visited with signal retribution. We found in his former work—and told him so—nearly all the faults by which a novel can be encumbered. But inasmuch as, for the sake of a certain promise that we fancied we saw glimmering through its crotchets and crudities, we bade him try again,—such of our readers as may find themselves on that authority committed to the dulness of 'Daughter Deborah' have, we admit, a right to demand from us a more cautious and less indulgent exercise of our function in future.

'Daughter Deborah' is a remarkable case of intellectual starvation. A book could scarcely be more meagre, cold, and flavourless. Rarely, indeed, have we read a work which, professing to deal with historical times and names of note, betrayed such scanty preparation and so much carelessness in getting up even the common details of dress and decoration needed to carry back the imagination of the reader. The scene is laid in London, at the crisis of the Restoration; but as far as local tint and individuality of treatment are concerned it might belong as well to any other period of historical experience in which blazing tar barrels, a rejoicing mob, and oxen roasted whole were the order of the day.—When we take into account how minute and vivid are the details that have come down to us of both the political and the domestic life of that time, it must be either negligence or inefficiency which has produced the flat and profitless result before us. The novelist has not thrown himself heartily into his work,—but has written quite from the outside of things. There is no gleam of genuine impulse or enthusiasm to be discerned in all the book. The author writes with malice prepense, to make a book according to receipt,—and there is a total absence of vital warmth in the result. The characters are wooden dolls dressed in the conventional properties of a not well appointed theatrical wardrobe, and the writer speaks their speeches for them—very badly. The dialogues are all but interminable, and the proportion of words to meanings exaggerates the relation of sack to bread permitted to himself by a celebrated soldier. As an example of conversations spun out to a great length wherein next to nothing is said, take this.—

"'Whether in friendship or enmity say what you have to say.'—'As if I'd speak to you on such a subject in anything but friendship.'—'To the point, sir.'—'I declare you frighten me out of it. The matter was but a trifle, yet as I know you to be jealous of your honour I considered that you ought to be apprised of certain passages.'—'Certain passages?—proceed.'—'Relating to ——.'—'Why this hesitation? go on—relating to ——.'—'Your grandson.'—'My grandson?—'Yes, that worthy youth Abraham Clark.'"

And so the dialogues throughout the book dribble on,—like nothing in nature except that most melancholy of all failures *Tea* that has been made before the water had fully boiled!

The chief character on whom the author has attempted to lay hands in this book is none other than "John Milton!" The picture of the poet blind and dependent on his daughter as his reader and amanuensis is exaggerated, repulsive, yet feeble. Take the following scene.—

"In that sweet, sound, calm, refreshing, dreamless sleep, was a young girl then lying in one of the scant chambers of that homely and humble abode. Wrapped in profound repose she was perfectly insensible to the fact that she was a denizen of a world of cankering care and blighting sorrow. She knew nothing of the hardness of the couch on which she was reposing, nothing of the scant simplicity of its garniture. * * The bell again jingled an impatient summons. A slight disturbance passed over the face of the sleeper. * * Again rang out the metallic sound,—and with a start the young girl burst the trammels of her slumbers. 'I am coming, father, I am coming,' she exclaimed in a loud key, * * and, with eyes only partially unbarred, she wrapped herself in her cloak with an almost instinctive facility and descended to the chamber below.—'Deborah, daughter Deborah, you have been long and slow in coming. I have tarried until my patience well nigh failed.'—'I slept,' said Deborah, 'I was weary, and I slept.'—'Ay, the light, the gladsome, and the unthinking lack not the power to forget their happiness while the afflicted are ever wakeful.' * * 'But is it sin to sleep?' asked the daughter.—'Is it sin to sleep?' repeated the father, as though pondering on his daughter's words. 'I know not whether our first parents slept in Paradise, or if sleep be a fruit of sin untasted till the Fall. * * Doubtless sleep hath the smack and flavour of sin.'—'What would you have me do?' asked the young girl.—'You were so long in coming that the thoughts which were struggling through my brain have taken flight.'—'Perhaps they will return to-morrow.'—'To-morrow! nay, they have passed into the oblivious grave of eternity.' * * The young girl drew her cloak about her and with a sort of despairing shudder leant against the wall and struggled fruitlessly against a heavy yawn.—'Oh, mundane nature,' exclaimed the poet, 'oh, nature base and corporeal, can nothing rouse the self-indulgent from their sloth?'—'Father,' said the girl, 'it was long past midnight before I laid me down; I have not slept two hours.'—'Get thee back to thy couch, Deborah.'—'Nay, father.'—'Away,' I say, 'thy refractoriness of spirit hath put to flight those cherub forms of poesy which had surrounded my mental vision.'"

However, Deborah lights her candle and sits down to write. "A short black cloak hastily folded round her in unstudied negligence brought out the *voluminous snow clouds* of her white night dress in striking contrast."—

"'I am quite ready,' said Deborah, 'I am waiting.'—'Too late,' responded the poet; 'think you, Deborah, that a holy and inspired muse will wait while a sleepy girl unbars the portals of her eyes and considers will she or nill she inscribe the sacred impulses of her aspiring spirit.'—'Oh, that I could live without sleep!' ejaculated Deborah.—'Deborah! those words have more of adjuration than of prayer, and savour of thine own impatient spirit.'"

Through the whole of the book John Milton is represented as thus harsh, tyrannical, mistrustful and altogether ungentlemanlike. For instance, in the presence of his daughter—who is drawn as a model of beauty and devotedness—he is made to complain that "she lags and wearies as the day advances, and often when the spirit of inspiration is strongest on me she can scarcely be roused from her sleepy pillow. Women are weak vessels; they lack the stronger energies of masculine intellect."—Now, there is good reason for believing that in his domestic relations John Milton was far from being an agreeable companion:—but the most crabbed old Nabob who ever came home from India with a liver complaint, and lost his fortune by the bank breaking when his back was turned, could scarcely be rationally presented as going through three volumes in the strain here attributed to the author of 'Paradise Lost.'—As to story or plot, there is little or none in this book. The only mystery made is so transparent that the author's ingenuity is taxed not to betray it till the proper time comes.

We would have it distinctly understood this time that we do *not* encourage the author of 'Daughter Deborah' to try his hand at another novel. We repeat what we have said before,—that he is not without talent:—but so far as it rests with us as a portion of the "Press of England," we decline sanctioning his farther attempts in this direction. In a world wherein the realities and duties of life are so earnest and imperative, every man can, if he will, find the means of employing the talent which he has in some kind of labour more profitable to himself and others than the writing of historical novels which are neither true to history nor amusing in their misuse of it.

The Pursuivant of Arms; or, Heraldry founded upon Facts. By J. Planché, Esq. Wright.

A most venerable and lofty science was Heraldry in the estimation of our forefathers:—taking cognizance of no meaner things than States and Empires,—dealing with knights and nobles, "kings and kaisars,"—and boasting an antiquity far beyond what would satisfy Molière's antiquary, who was content to begin at the deluge. "At hevyn will I begyn," says the Boke of St. Alban's, "wher were v orderis of aungelles, and now stande but iv *in cote armoris* of knowledge, encrounyd ful hye wyth precious stones." Arms are assigned to Adam:—who according to Sylvanus Morgan bore "a plain red shield, with a shield white or argent borne upon it as an escutcheon of pretence," because Eve was an heiress. Then, with what satisfaction did the Leighs and the Holmes's and the Fernes's determine the arms of all the chief antediluvians:—assigning to Jubal, most appropriately, "a golden harp on an azure field," and to Tubal-Cain a silver hammer surmounted by a golden crown,—while their sister Naamah, as the inventress of weaving, was duly provided with the arms of a "gentilwoman," "a silver earding-comb in a lozenge gules!" What a wide field for the exercise of their ingenuity did these worthy heralds find, too, in Jewish and profane history:—coats of arms being found for all the kings of Israel and all the heroes of the Trojan war; while even the apocryphal ancient history of England was appealed to—and by a Garter King at Arms, Sir William Segar—at the commencement of James the First's reign, to quell the battle royal then raging between the English and Scottish heralds on the question of precedence,—and which he learnedly set at rest by "the fact," that Brutus, King of Britain, "gave to his *eldest* son Locrine, England with arms *or*, a lion passant-gardant *gules*," while to his *second* son he gave Scotland, and her lion rampant *gules*, which therefore *must*, as in duty bound, take the second quarter of the royal shield.

It was doubtless these extravagant fancies that caused the science, which for more than three centuries had held so high a place that a knowledge of it was considered indispensable both to the scholar and the gentleman, to fall into such contempt as to be designated by the flippant wits of the last century as "the science of fools with long memories":—a saying, as Mr. Planché remarks, "of more wit than wisdom," since "the abuse of an art can never, amongst thinking men, lessen the use of it, and until all respect for high and noble deeds shall be destroyed on earth, an art which assists to perpetuate the remembrance of their enactors can never truly be called 'the science of fools.'"

Like most modern writers on the subject, Mr. Planché is inclined to assign a very recent date to heraldry. Certain it is, that the most vehement advocate of its antiquity must now throw aside the claims, not only of the antediluvians and patriarchs to armorial bearings, but of the heroes of antiquity, and even of the Emperors

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of Rome,—although the eagle may doubtless be considered as "the badge" of the Empire. We much question whether Sylvanus Morgan himself, if living now, would not be compelled by force of evidence to yield up his claim as to the ancient world. But then, did not Arthur, when in true knightly fashion he buckled his good sword Excaliber on his side, bear the image of "our ladye" on his shield?—and Charlemagne, did not he take the lilies of France as his arms? Alas! Arthur in history is little more than a name; and Charlemagne, so far from adopting armorial bearings—or indeed knowing anything about them—always, we know, used a gem of exquisite Greek workmanship for his seal:—sure proof that there was no college of heralds in his times. Still, that many writers on heraldry, though in the absence of positive proof, should lean to the opinion that "coat armor" was known centuries before the Crusades, is scarcely surprising; for heraldry is a symbolical language, and symbolism was the mental characteristic of the earlier middle ages. We have, however, ample proof that heraldry was then unknown. The illuminations of the tenth and eleventh centuries present us with not a single specimen of blazon on the shield or on the standard; and in that most valuable record of contemporary usages, the Bayeux Tapestry, while we find crosses, rings, stripes, and somewhat that seems intended for a dragon, there is nothing approaching a regular heraldic figure. The testimony of Anna Comnena, too, as quoted by Mr. Planché, proves that up to the period of the first crusade the French were destitute of armorial bearings. Describing the shields of the French knights (1081—1118) she remarks, that they are "of an oblong shape, the surface is not flat, but convex, and the exterior face is of metal so highly polished by frequent rubbings, with a boss of shining brass in the middle, as to dazzle the eyes of the beholders." Ere two generations, however, had passed away, every monarch and noble had his family arms painted on the shield and embroidered on the banner. Is it not therefore most probable that heraldry originated with the Crusades? This view Mr. Planché does not wholly oppose; although he asks,—"if correct, how is it that so important and remarkable a circumstance should be unrecorded by the minute chroniclers and veracious painters of the times, to whom, from their peculiar tastes and habits, it must have been as interesting as it was novel?" To this it may be replied, that the great fact of the first crusade, the capture of Jerusalem, occupied men's minds to the exclusion of every minor detail. Europe was actually struck dumb with wonder when the news arrived that the standard of Godfrey floated on the walls of the Holy City; and details far more striking than the adoption of a more regular system of "cognizances" than had hitherto prevailed were likely enough to find no record in the pages of the chronicler. About the time of the second crusade we find hints, so to speak, of armorial bearings; for, to a period preceding that belongs the often-quoted incident of our Henry the First when he knighted his son-in-law Geoffrey Plantagenet placing round his neck the shield emblazoned with "little golden lions,"—while the earliest seal with an heraldic bearing is that of Philip, first Count of Flanders, and dates 1164—a few years after.

We have said, "a more regular system of cognizances;"—for that cognizances were used even in the preceding century we have the testimony of Wace and others,—and it seems very probable that the original cognizance with accessories was the foundation of armorial bearings. At the beginning of the twelfth century, Mr. Planché has shown us, most of the rulers of Northern Europe adopted a lion as their cognizance.—

"The Norman monarch of England, the kings of Scotland, Norway and Denmark, the native Princes of Wales, the Dukes of Normandy, the Counts of Flanders, Holland, Hainault, &c. all about the same period, *i. e.* sooner or later during the twelfth century, appear as with one accord to have displayed the lion as a device if not as a positive heraldic bearing: and that the lions of England may owe their origin to the assumption of one as a badge or cognoissance by Henry I. previous to 1127, is exceedingly probable, for the following reasons: John of Salisbury tells us that Henry (in whose reign, as we have seen, the earliest known mention is made of a shield emblazoned with little golden lions) was surnamed the Lion of Justice; and Mr. Sharon Turner, in his History of England, remarks that this epithet was taken from the pretended prophecies of Merlin, which were then in great fashion and circulation, 'After two Dragons,' said Merlin, 'the Lion of Justice shall come, at whose roaring the Gallic Towers and Island Serpents shall tremble.' Such a surname would be sufficient to induce him to assume a lion for his badge, independent of any other motive. It may be also worth noticing that Henry's favourite residence in Normandy, and the place where he died was in the Forest of *Lions*, near a little town of that name frequently confounded with the great southern city of *Lyon*, and that his second wife Adeliza, whom he married in 1121, was daughter of Godfrey, first Duke of Louvaine, of which duchy the allusive arms were eventually also a lion. ('Leuwon: Leeuwen: Leones:'—Oliv. Vred. Vol. I. p. xxxvi.)"

To this second marriage Mr. Planché seems inclined to assign the second lion in the royal arms;—we should, however, rather refer it to the second Henry, whose father, as we have seen, bore more than one lion on his shield. This we allow is but conjectural; for—

"The great seal of Henry II. gives us no further information, the inside of the shield being alone visible; and the story of his having added a second lion to his arms on his marriage with Eleanor of Aquitaine, rests, as I have before remarked, on no contemporary evidence. The earliest undoubted representation of a royal English achievement occurs on the seal of his son John, afterwards King of England, who, during the life of his father, used one, on which he is represented bearing a shield charged with two lions passant, the same number being borne by his natural son, Richard de Varenne passant-regardant. On the first seal of Richard I., we find a shield charged with a lion *counter-rampant*, that is, with his face turned to the sinister or left side of the escutcheon, and as the convex form of the shield enables us to see but half of it, Sir Henry Spelman, in his 'Aspilogia,' conjectures there would be another lion on the sinister side, forming a coat that would be blazoned, 'two lions *combatant*;' and that Richard, during the life of his father, bore, as his brother John did, more than one lion on his shield, we have evidence in the verses of a contemporary poet, who makes William de Barr say he knew Richard 'by the lions grinning in his shield,' 'rictus agnosco leonum illius in clypeo;' establishing the plurality as strongly as John of Marmoustier has those of Henry I. or of Geoffrey of Anjou. On the second Great Seal of Richard, used after his return from Jerusalem and his captivity in Germany, A.D. 1194, we have the first representation of the three lions or leopards, which have from that time descended to us as the royal arms of England. This latter seal also gives us the very interesting peculiarity of a crest, the helmet being surmounted by a semi-circle of rays, like a demi-soleil, in the centre of which appears a single lion or leopard."

The question whether the royal lions are to bear that name or to be called "leopards," has, as our readers doubtless remember, been fiercely canvassed. The general view has been, that if a single lion occupy the shield, he is to be called by his right name,—but if there be more than one, then, notwithstanding the royal length of the tail and the shaggy majesty of the mane, they can only claim the title of "leopards." Cœur de Lion's lions, however, were called by their right name; although his nephew, the third Henry, calls them "leopards" in many documents. Edward the Third, and the Black Prince, and Richard the Second speak even of their crests as "the leopard." These are at least proofs that in the palmy days of heraldry the leopard was not viewed as an inferior animal. Finally, toward the close of the fifteenth century "the royal animal regained his name, and the arms of England have ever since been blazoned "*Gules*, three *Lions* passant-regardant, *or*."

Almost contemporaneous with the adoption of the lion by the monarchs and rulers of northern Europe was the assumption of the eagle by the rulers of the eastern and southern portions. Pre-eminent among these is the double-headed eagle of the Germanic empire,—doubtless assumed by the emperors as successors of the Cæsars. But while we can easily account for the adoption of the royal beast or the royal bird by the sovereigns of Europe, it seems most difficult to assign a reason for the monarchs of a nation which always stood high, not only in political power but in arms, contenting themselves with the simple bearing of a flower! Indeed, we can scarcely conceive of less appropriate arms for a warlike nation than the lilies of France, with their *far niente* motto, "they toil not, neither do they spin" (*non laborant neque nent*),—suitable enough for the saloons of Versailles, or the boudoir of *la petite Trianon*, but all unfit for the battle-field. It is, therefore, not surprising that many French heralds should have maintained that the so called lilies were spear-heads:—and eagerly has this question been canvassed. Indeed—

"Next to the origin of heraldry itself, perhaps nothing connected with it has given rise to such controversy as the origin of this celebrated charge. It has been gravely asserted that it was brought down from Heaven by an angel, and presented to Clovis, King of the Franks. Upton calls it '*flos gladioli*,' and his translator, Dame Julians Barnes, tells us that the arms of the King of France 'were certainli sende by an Aungell from Heaven, that is to say, iij. flouris in manner of swordis in a feld of azure, the which certain armys were given to the aforesaid Kyng of Fraunce in sygne of everlasting trowbull, and that he and his successors always with battle and swords should be punished.' It has been also called a toad, and the head of a spear, and Dallaway and Lower incline to the latter belief. I am not going to record all the arguments which have been from time to time brought forward in support of this or that theory. My province is to state facts, and leave you to draw your own deductions. As an ornament, the Fleur de lys is seen on Roman monuments, and as the top of a sceptre or sword-hilt from the earliest periods of the French monarchy. As a badge or cognizance it first appears on the seals of Louis VII. of France, called *Le Jeune*, and also surnamed Fleury, from the Abbey of that name, the favourite retreat of the French kings, and where Philip I. was buried. By Philip II., surnamed Augustus, the contemporary of our Richard I. and John, it was borne both singly and repeated 'sans nombre;' and analogy supports the conclusion which one of the most intelligent of French writers on this subject came to long ago,—that the Fleur de Lys, or Flower de *Luce*, was merely a rebus, signifying Fleur de Louis or Flower of Lewis."

This is evidently the true origin; and it seems to us also to supply the reason for the remarkable partiality of the Capetian race to the name of Louis. The above is a striking illustration of what are termed "armes parlantes;" and which certainly were not viewed with contempt at an earlier period, whatever might be the opinion of later heralds,—since, as Mr. Planché truly remarks, "it would be difficult to find an ancient coat that did not originally allude to the name, estate, or profession of the bearer, excepting, of course, those display-

ing simply the honourable ordinaries." Now, the only exceptions to this rule which our memory supplies us with are those which refer so forcibly to Eastern warfare,—the red cross, the Saracen's head, the frequent escallop shell, and the crescent,—not to mention the "water-bouget," which, with Mr. Lower, we think belongs also to the Crusades, during which so much suffering was endured from want of water that the knight who won access to a spring or protected the water-carriers by his good sword would receive greater honour from his brethren in arms than if he slew a "Saracen gentleman." All these things prove to us that the origin of Heraldry was connected with the Crusades,—and probably with the first of them.

Mr. Planché's theory of "the honourable ordinaries," although such as would make the worthy heralds of the sixteenth century stand aghast, is not improbable. He refers the Cross, the Saltice, the Chief, the Bend, the Chevron,—in short, all "the nine honourable ordinaries,"—to the various means used to strengthen the shield by bars of wood or metal. This opinion is supported with much ingenuity, and his illustrations strongly corroborate it. Still, we can scarcely agree to such matter-of-fact handling of the poetry of Heraldry; especially when we bear in mind that it had its birth at a most romantic period, one, too, when symbolical meanings were sought for in almost everything. It is but just, however, to Mr. Planché to say, that while he goes far to strip Heraldry of its poetical element, he willingly advocates its importance in genealogical and historical inquiries: terming it "the short-hand of history," and recommending its more general study. Perhaps we cannot better conclude than by letting our author speak for himself.—

"And now, gentle reader, ere we part, allow me briefly to recapitulate the Facts which I have endeavoured to establish in the foregoing pages. Firstly, that Heraldry appears as a science at the commencement of the thirteenth century, and that although armorial bearings had then been in existence undoubtedly for some time previous, no precise date has yet been discovered for their first assumption. Secondly, that in their assumption the object of the assumers was, not, as it has been so generally asserted and believed, to record any achievement or to symbolize any virtue or qualification, but simply to distinguish their persons and properties; to display their pretensions to certain honours or estates; attest their alliances or acknowledge their feudal tenures. Thirdly, that wherever it has been possible to sift the evidence thoroughly, it has appeared that the popular traditions of the origin of certain singular coats of arms have been the inventions of a later period.—Stories fabricated to account for the bearings, and sometimes flatter the descendants of the family by attributing to their ancestors the most improbable adventures or achievements. Fourthly, that the real value of the study of Heraldry has but recently become apparent, and that, however some may regret the demolition of old and familiar legends, the importance of eliciting genealogical facts must be admitted by all, and the new interest thus imparted to the Science elevates it in the eyes of many who have hitherto looked upon it with indifference, if not with contempt."

Although we cannot wholly agree with Mr. Planché, we bear willing testimony to his careful research; and shall be glad if his remarks contribute to awaken a more general interest in a science which, though no longer maintaining the pre-eminent station which our forefathers assigned to it, is still indispensable to a full acquaintance with the peculiarities of the Middle Ages—indeed with their history.

Béranger. Two Hundred of his Lyrical Poems done into English Verse. By William Young. New York, Putnam.

THIS collection—which we apprehend is on a larger scale than any previous one of the kind,—is a reprint, with additions, of a work published in England three or four years ago. Not merely from the bulk of the volume, but likewise from the tone of its preface, it is evident that Mr. Young regards his labour as one claiming minute attention. This makes it expedient for the critic to be more strict than in other circumstances it would have been either needful or considerate that he should be.

Our translator has not overstated the difficulties of his task. There can be few, if any, lyrics harder to render in English verse than Béranger's. The artist is called upon to reproduce the greatest grace in union with the greatest simplicity,—to offer an equivalent for national humour, alternately broad and delicate, yet always appealing to the universal sympathies of humanity,—to present a transcript of some of the most polished, yet artless, versification in existence. Our English rhythms, because they are fuller of music than those of France, are inadequate substitutes for the more meagre but also more piquant metres of the *chansonniers*. Be it remembered, too, that though our language is rich where the French language is poor,—it is apt to be coarse where the parlance of our neighbours is the finest. In place of the jargon—half *esprit*, half jingle—which gives its arresting charm to many a French *refrain*, we have often nothing of nicer taste than slang to offer. The popular sayings of the two countries no more run in parallels than do their passions and pomposities. The same difficulty which makes the *tirades* of Corneille sound so absurd and common-place when translated—rises up as an obstacle to the paraphraser, whether he attempts to render one of Madame Dudevant's prose-pictures of Venice, or some such half-arch half-pensive song as 'Le Grenier,' or 'Roger Bontemps.'

None of these unquestionable general truths seem to have been apprehended by Mr. Young;—or else he does not possess the expressive power of the poet who is to render foreign poets. His work justifies both suspicions,—and suggests the ungrateful toil of one who has set himself to copy a cameo with a sledge-hammer,—to touch an enamel with a coach-painter's brush. For the *malice* of the *vaudeville couplet*, Mr. Young gives us the homely "mischief" of the Clare Market ballad. The tender yet popular singer—the *naïf* and poignant satirist—the boon companion who wears his vine-wreath, not as a Silenus, but as a Faun would wear it,—is here presented as a being little more subtle or accomplished than the rhymesters who versified Marshal Haynau's visit to the Brewery, and who now, like Wisdom, are crying in the streets concerning the antecedents and destinies of Bloomerism. Is not such a character deserved by a versifier who employs such flowers of speech as "the go," "draw it mild," "old clo'," "shocking bad hat," &c.,—and who does not even use his "vernacular" pure? This, such nondescript words as "old *hunk*" (for "old bunks"), because "a word was wanted to rhyme with "*drunk*,"—as "*Liz*," by way of translating "*Lisette*," rather drearily illustrate.—In brief, want of power, want of poetry, and want of taste characterize Mr. Young's translations. Infinitely superior in every respect are the specimens which some years ago appeared in *Tait's* and *Blackwood's Magazines*, and the more venturesome paraphrases of Father Prout. The reader shall be furnished with some opportunity of making the comparison. For this purpose, we will offer the first two stanzas of 'Roger Bontemps' as translated by Mr. Young.—

To show our hypochondriacs,
  In days the most forlorn,
A pattern set before their eyes,
  Roger Bontemps was born.
To live obscurely, at his will,
  To keep aloof from strife—
Hurrah for fat Roger Bontemps;
  This is his rule of life!

To sport, when holidays occur,
  The hat his father wore;
With roses or with ivy leaves
  To trim it, as of yore:
To wear a coarse old cloak, his friend
  For twenty years—no less—
Hurrah for fat Roger Bontemps;
  This is his style of dress!

Did it never occur to Mr. Young that the very name of the hero of this lay, being a *canting* name (to use the heraldic distinction), claimed its paraphrase as well as the song itself? The following stanzas from one of the elder English translations referred to, though open to amendment, convey much more of the tune and humour of Béranger,—

To shame the fretfulness
  That sullen fools display,
Amidst a land's distress
  Was born one Robin May.
All snarlers to despise,—
  Live free—and shun display,—
Ah, gay! was the device
  Of comely Robin May.

The hat his father owned
  On holidays to wear,
With rose and ivy bound,
  To give a buxom air;
Coarse jerkin, patched and torn,
  With years of service grey,—
Gay!—was the costume worn
  By comely Robin May.

Let us try Mr. Young once again by the opening verses of one of Béranger's finest and most favourite songs. These are thus rendered by him.—

"Shepherd, thou say'st the star that rules
  Our fate in Heaven is bright."
"Yes, but 'tis there, my son, concealed
  Within the veil of night."
"The secrets of that azure calm
  'Tis said thou canst explore—
Shepherd, what is yon star that shoots,
  Shoots, and is seen no more?"

"My son, a mortal has expired;
  His star that moment fell:
He quaffed the circling cup, and sang,
  The tide of mirth to swell.
Now sleeps he sound, beside the bowl
  He chanted heretofore." . . . . .
"Shepherd, again a star that shoots,
  Shoots, and is seen no more?"

Compare the above, with its excruciating burden, with the following paraphrase by Father Prout.—

"Shepherd! they say that a star presides
  Over life"!—"'Tis a truth, my son!
But its secrets from men the firmament hides
  Except for some favoured one."—
"Shepherd! they say that a link unbroken
  Connects our fate with some favourite star;
O! what may yon shooting light betoken,
  That falls, falls, and is quenched afar"?

"The death of a mortal, my son, who held
  In his banqueting hall high revel,
And his music was sweet, and his wine excelled,
  And Life's path seemed long and level.
No sigh was given, no word was spoken,
  When his pleasure Death came to mar,
But what does yon milder light betoken,
  That falls, falls, and is quenched afar"?
&c. &c.

It is true that in the above two stanzas the polyglott Priest of Watergrasshill goes to the very verge of paraphraser's licence, by amplifying, retrenching, and substituting. But he gives us the spirit and the tone of his original,—and to these Mr. Young can never rise. The vulgarisms cited above will for ever prevent his version from serving as a school-book Béranger, where the literal sense is the *desideratum*;—while his all-pervading want of poetical feeling will shut out his rhymes from that library of translated poetry which Coleridge and Moore and Cary and Wrangham and "many others more" have enriched by their scholastic and picturesque contributions.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.—*Mark Seaworth: a Tale of the Indian Ocean.* By William H. G. Kingston, Esq.; *with Illustrations* by John Absolon.—It may be doubted whether four words exist which more suddenly and more universally fascinate the atten-

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tion of the young than those with which *The Ancient Mariner* began his recital—"*There was a ship.*" The Christmas fire-side, it would seem, might as well lack its blazing log and its holly berries as a sea-tale; and Mr. Kingston is the first,—though we can well believe he will not prove the worst—of those who arrive with their histories of wreck and piracy, and desert islands in the South Seas, and lost children and tender-hearted savages, to make not the young only, but the old also, once again listen as eagerly as if scenery, machinery, and characters were all unfamiliar. Surely enough is here told at once to characterize and recommend 'Mark Seaworth.'—Another "sure card" for publishers that cater for the young is such a volume as *Anecdotes of the Habits and Instinct of Animals*, by Mrs. Lee, with illustrations by Harrison Weir. In this, creatures no less seducing than monkeys, lions, elephants, dogs, &c. are displayed in all—and perhaps somewhat more than all—their craft, sagacity, enterprise, greediness, and impudence. Our qualification, however, does not go beyond the habitual caution with which it may be as well to accompany tales and takings-for-granted concerning the animal creation. The enthusiasm which supports and is supported on minute observation and habitual study can hardly fail, in the end, a very little to colour the medium through which facts are seen and by which feats are recorded,—but this "very little" may bridge over the hair's-breadth space between the highest instincts and the lowest reasoning powers. Mrs. Lee, however, is less apocryphal in her anecdotes than many of her predecessors; and her authorities—to name only one, Professor Owen—are, for the most part, first-rate:—so that her book may be commended. Older readers, too, than those for whom it was originally meant may find entertainment in it.—The following whimsical story may be of use to all such as are liable to sudden passions for "pets."—"Two ladies, friends of a near relative of my own, from whom I received an account of the circumstance, were walking in Regent-street, and were accosted by a man who requested them to buy a beautiful little dog, covered with long, white hair, which he carried in his arms. Such things are not uncommon in that part of London, and the ladies passed on without heeding him. He followed, and repeated his entreaties;—stating that, as it was the last he had to sell, they should have it at a reasonable price. They looked at the animal; it was really an exquisite little creature, and they were at last persuaded. The man took it home for them, received his money, and left the dog in the arms of one of the ladies. A short time elapsed, and the dog, which had been very quiet, in spite of a restless, bright eye, began to show symptoms of uneasiness, and as he ran about the room, exhibited some unusual movements, which rather alarmed the fair purchasers. At last, to their great dismay, the new dog ran squeaking up one of the window curtains, so that when the gentleman of the house returned home a few minutes after, he found the ladies in consternation, and right glad to have his assistance. He vigorously seized the animal, took out his penknife, cut off its covering, and displayed a large rat to their astonished eyes, and, of course, to its own destruction."

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THE ECLIPSE OF THALES.

Claymore, Enfield.

WHILE astronomers are engaged in correcting and perfecting their theory of the motions of the Moon's node, the result of which will, I trust, be ere long to decide the question which is the true date of that eclipse which is said to have been predicted by Thales,—an investigation which I have every reason to believe is in the hands of more than one able inquirer,—allow me to offer some observations, drawn from history, tending to show how highly improbable it is that the eclipse of the year B.C. 610, which has been so positively fixed upon by Ideler and other chronologists, can be that which was foretold by the Milesian philosopher. Your readers are aware that the eclipse which Thales computed was made memorable by the fact, that it caused the suspension of a battle between the armies of Cyaxares, king of Media, and Alyattes, king of Lydia, in the *sixth* year of a war between those two kings. To be consistent, therefore, with history, it is indispensable that the eclipse selected should be found to fall in some year not earlier than the sixth year of the reign of Alyattes. Let us inquire what evidence remains with regard to the date of the accession of that king to the throne.

The earliest authority that we meet with is very distinct on this point, and is also an authority of great weight,—viz., the Parian Chronicle, compiled within 300 years after the death of Alyattes. This Chronicle places the first year of the reign of Alyattes in the year B.C. 605. Now, if this date is correct, it is unnecessary to pursue the inquiry any further, for it is conclusive against the eclipse of the year B.C. 610. The correctness of the date, however, is not relied upon by modern chronologists. We have to inquire, therefore, how far it is confirmed by other ancient authority.

There are three ancient authorities which appear to me to support the record of the marble. Sosicrates, quoted by Diogenes Laertius, (life of Periander,) tells us that "Periander died 41 years before Crœsus, (and) before the 49th Olympiad." "Before Crœsus," I take to mean before the time of Crœsus, not "before the overthrow of Crœsus," as Mr. Clinton would assume. And "before the 49th Olympiad," signifies somewhere in the 48th, which runs from B.C. 588 to 585. Now, supposing Periander to have died in the year B.C. 587, the 41st year from that date inclusive would be B.C. 547, for the accession of Crœsus, and, supposing Alyattes to have reigned 57 whole years and say 3 months, before the accession of Crœsus, would bring us to the year B.C. 547+57·3=604·3^{m}, or B.C. 605, for the accession of Alyattes, being the exact year given on the marble. The words of Sosicrates are not very precise, but are thus quite consistent with the Parian Chronicle. Euphorion, quoted by Clemens Alexandrinus (Strom. I.), states that Gyges, king of Lydia, began to reign in the 18th Olympiad=B.C. 708—5. It is not defined in which of the four years that composed this Olympiad his accession to the throne took place. Counting, however, from the last year of the Olympiad, thirty-eight years for the reign of Gyges, forty-nine years for the reign of Ardys, and twelve years for the reign of Sadyattes, we come to the year B.C. 606 as that of the accession of Alyattes,—that is to say, within one year of the date recorded on the marble. Again, Pliny records that Candaules, the predecessor of Gyges, died in the 18th Olympiad, which leads to the same conclusion. Up to the time of Pliny, therefore, we may assume that there was no doubt within the limits of one Olympiad as regards the date of the accession of Alyattes to the throne.

It may be remarked, with reference to the Parian Chronicle, that the dates therein recorded are not, like the dates of historians, liable to alteration by the carelessness or incompetence of copyists. Whatever was the opinion of the compiler—which probably was the received opinion of his day—we have it now before us. It is true that in the time of Selden, who deciphered the engraving on the marble, the remains were much mutilated by time. Nevertheless, sufficient traces of the inscription remained, even in the opinion of those who reject the date (see both Hales' and Prideaux's copies of the Chronicle), from which to deduce the year B.C. 605 as that of the accession of Alyattes. The compiler, then, it must be supposed by those who reject the authority of the marble, was mistaken in his opinion. Yet surely the best sources of information were then open to him. The island of Paros was not far distant from Lydia, where the chronology of the times of the kings of Lydia was capable probably of being verified. For we must remember that the tombs of the Lydian kings, which were visited by Herodotus, and afterwards by Strabo, and more especially the tomb of Alyattes, which is spoken of by Herodotus as a work of art second to none but the monuments of the Egyptians and Babylonians (L. I. 93), were open to inspection in the time of the compiler of the Chronicle, about the year B.C. 264, and it is not unreasonable to assume that there were inscriptions on those monuments recording events and dates connected with the reigns of the kings they were intended to commemorate. The monument of Alyattes is still visible near the site of ancient Sardis; though in 1825 its stone basement, as Chandler reports, was covered by the mould which had been washed down from above. It is not impossible that the annals of the reign of Alyattes might yet be recovered on clearing away the rubbish which envelopes his tomb.

Let us next refer to the authority of Eusebius, who wrote in the fourth century after Christ. Eusebius (see Armenian copy), who has taken upon himself to strike off eight years of the reign of Alyattes, has not ventured to impugn the authority upon which those before him had placed the time of his accession to the throne. For, though he places the time in the year B.C. 609, it is evident that he arrives at his conclusion by counting from the first year of Gyges, and placing that year in the first of the 18th Olympiad instead of the last:—thus placing the accession of Alyattes four years higher than the Parian Chronicle. But, whether the true date be B.C. 609, with Eusebius, or B.C. 605, with the Chronicle, either is conclusive against the possibility of the eclipse having taken place in the year B.C. 610.

Modern chronologists have raised the date of the first of Alyattes to B.C. 617. But even this date will not allow of the eclipse having happened in B.C. 610 consistently with history. For thus it would have fallen in the eighth year of the king's reign. Now, Herodotus tells us that the first six years of Alyattes were occupied in war against the Milesians. There is not the slightest intimation that the war with the Medes was carried on at the same time as that against Miletus. And if they were carried on separately, it is clear, since each war occupied six years, that the eclipse cannot be placed earlier than the twelfth year of the reign. I will not dwell upon the fact that Alyattes had a daughter at the time of the eclipse old enough to be married to Astyages, and yet lived at least till

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the year B.C. 560. But passing over this, and also the youth of Thales at the time he made his computation, if in the year B.C. 610, I think I have sufficiently shown how highly improbable it is that the eclipse of that year could have been that predicted by Thales. And I venture to uphold the general accuracy and consistency of history on this point, in opposition to the results hitherto derived from astronomy; considering how confessedly imperfect have been the Lunar tables upon which astronomers have founded their calculations.

I am, &c. J. W. BOSANQUET.

MADAME IDA PFEIFFER IN AFRICA.

WE have received from Mr. Petermann the following interesting communication respecting the whereabout and plans of a lady whose singular adventures we were the first to bring under the notice of English readers when an account of them originally appeared in German:—and we gladly give it insertion, in order that we may call the attention of those whom we were able to interest in the history of this remarkable woman—and who may have faith in the good which her characteristic energy and perseverance might effect just now in the new field which she has chosen for her wanderings—to that lack of pecuniary resources by which her intentions are defeated and the good may be lost.

The remarkable adventures of Madame Pfeiffer having first been communicated to the English public in your columns, I hope that the following lines may be of some interest to your readers.

Madame Pfeiffer came to London last April with the intention of undertaking a fresh journey:—her love of travelling appearing not only unabated, but even augmented by the success of her journey round the world. She had planned as her fourth undertaking a journey to some of those portions of the globe which she had not yet visited;—namely, Australia and the islands of the Asiatic Archipelago,—intending to proceed thither by the usual route round the Cape. Her purpose was, however, changed while in London. The recently discovered Lake Ngami in Southern Africa, and the interesting region to the North towards the Equator—the reflection how successfully she had travelled among savage tribes where armed men hesitated to penetrate, how well she had borne alike the cold of Iceland and the heat of Babylonia—and lastly, the suggestion that she might be destined to raise the veil from some of the totally unknown portions of the interior of Africa—made her determine on stopping at the Cape, and trying to proceed thence, if possible, northwards into the Equatorial regions of the African Continent.

Madame Pfeiffer left for the Cape on the 22nd of May last in a sailing vessel:—her usual mode of travelling by sea, steamboats being too expensive. She arrived safely at Cape Town on the 11th of August:—as I learned from a letter which I received from her last week, dated the 20th of August. From that letter the following are extracts.—

"The impression which this place [Cape Town] made on me, was not an agreeable one. The mountains surrounding the town are bare, the town itself—London being still fresh in my recollection—resembles a village. The houses are of only one story, with terraces instead of roofs. From the deck of the vessel a single tree was visible, standing on a hill. In short, on my arrival I was at once much disappointed, and this disappointment rather increases than otherwise. In the town the European mode of living is entirely prevalent,—more so than in any other place abroad that I have seen. I have made a good many inquiries as to travelling into the interior; and have been throughout assured that the natives are everywhere kindly disposed to travellers, and that as a woman I should be able to penetrate much farther than a man,—and I have been strongly advised to undertake a journey as far as the unknown lakes, and even beyond. Still, with all these splendid prospects and hopes, I fear I shall travel less in this country than in any other. Here, the first thing you are told is, that you must purchase waggons, oxen, horses, asses,—hire expensive guides, &c. &c. How far should I reach in this way with my 100*l.* sterling? I will give you an example of the charges in this country:—for the carriage of my little luggage to my lodgings I had to pay 10*s.* 6*d.*! I had previously landed in what I thought the most expensive places in the world—London, Calcutta, Canton, &c.,—had everywhere a much greater distance to go from the vessel to my lodgings,—and nowhere had I paid half of what they charged me here. Board and lodging I have also found very dear. Fortunately, I have been very kindly received into the house of Mr. Thaewitzer, the Hamburgh Consul,—where I live very agreeably, but do not much advance the object which brought me here. I shall in the course of the month undertake a short journey with some Dutch boers to Klein Williams; and I fear that this will form the beginning and the end of my travels in this country."

From these extracts it will be seen that the resolute Lady has at her command but very slender means for the performance of her journeys. The sum of 100*l.*, which was granted to her by the Austrian Government, forms the whole of her funds. Private resources she has none. It took her twenty years (!) to save enough money to perform her first journey,—namely, that to the Holy Land. While in London she received scarcely any encouragement; and her works were not appreciated by the public, or indeed known save through your means, till she had left this country. It is to be regretted that the want of a little pecuniary assistance should deter the enterprising Lady from carrying out her projected journey in Southern Africa. Though not a scientific traveller, she is a faithful recorder of what she sees and hears,—and she is prepared to note the bearings and distances of the journey, make meteorological observations, and keep a careful diary: so that, the results of her projected journey would perhaps be of as much interest as those of other travellers of greater pretensions.

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S 'DISCOVERY OF GUIANA.'

I am bound to acknowledge at once, and thankfully, the error pointed out by Sir R. H. Schomburgk in one of my papers on Sir Walter Raleigh read during the last season before the Society of Antiquaries. I did not advert to the reprint of 'The Discovery of Guiana' edited by Sir R. H. Schomburgk for the Hakluyt Society. The fact is, that it did not fall in my way for any useful purpose until after my papers were prepared and read.* I spoke of the reprints by Cayley and Birch, and since their time by the Clarendon Press. Not very long afterwards I found out the mistake myself; and I intended, in consequence, to alter the text of my paper, and to state, in a note, that the editor of the reprint for the Hakluyt Society had anticipated me in pointing out that there were two impressions of 'The Discovery of Guiana' in 1596. My communications to the Society of Antiquaries are not yet printed, so that I am quite in time to do that justice to Sir R. H. Schomburgk to which he has an unquestionable right. I shall have occasion to send one or two more papers on the same subject during the present season; but I may be allowed to add, that I do not at all profess to furnish a new biographical account of Sir Walter Raleigh,—but merely to supply some deficiencies in the lives of him already published, from sources either entirely new or not hitherto sufficiently examined. I have yet met with nothing to clear up the curious point raised by Sir R. H. Schomburgk respecting the daughter of Sir Walter Raleigh.

Although Sir R. H. Schomburgk mentions the fact of the two impressions of 'The Discovery of Guiana' in 1596, he does not advert to the important inference to be drawn from it; and he terms the typographical differences between the two "trifling." They are, in truth, some hundred in number; and are not "trifling," if on no other account than because they prove incontestably that Raleigh did not leave the republication to the care, or rather to the carelessness, of the old printer (Robinson), but that every sheet was corrected by his own hand. Such could not have been the case with the original edition,—and it gives value to the early reprint.

J. PAYNE COLLIER.

Maidenhead, Dec. 1.

* When I removed into the country, I was unable to bring more than a third part of my books with me; and the publications of the Hakluyt Society were unluckily among those sent to the Pantechnicon. I have since procured another set.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE coming book season promises to be of more than usual interest and fertility. Last year the public were too much engrossed with the approaching jubilee of science and industry to pay due attention to the creations of literature,—and the winter season was consequently rather barren in works of consequence. Besides a probable continuation of Mr. Macaulay's 'History of England,' we have the announcement already made of two more volumes of Mr. Grote's 'History of Greece,'—and of an addition, embracing the opening years of the American War of Independence, to Lord Mahon's 'History of England.' In the department of more special histories, we shall have 'The Grenville Papers,' being the correspondence of Lord Temple and George Grenville with their friends and contemporaries,—Capt. Devereux's Lives of the Earls of Essex, from the time of Henry the Eighth to that of Cromwell, founded, as is said, on letters and papers chiefly unpublished,—and 'The Lord Chancellor Clarendon, with Lives of his Friends and Contemporaries.'—The department of biography promises to be rich in materials. Early in the season Mr. Hepworth Dixon will bring out 'Robert Blake, Admiral and General of the English Forces at Sea—a contribution to the History of the Commonwealth,' based, as we understand, almost entirely on original documents.—Mrs. Bray announces a 'Life of Stothard, with Illustrations of his chief Works,'—Mr. Disraeli is engaged in preparing for the press a Life of the late Lord George Bentinck, "a Political Biography,"—'The Life and Letters of Niebuhr' is advertised by Messrs. Chapman & Hall; the volumes to be enriched with essays by the Chevalier Bunsen—at one period secretary to the great critic—and MM. Brandis and Löbel,—and we hear that Lord Cockburn is writing a Life of the late Lord Jeffrey, in which will be incorporated his correspondence with Byron and other departed greatnesses.—We notice, too, that a new edition of the works of Dr. Isaac Barrow, "enlarged with materials hitherto unpublished," is in course of preparation for the Syndics of the University of Cambridge.—A new octavo edition of the 'Life of Ormonde' is about to proceed from the University Press.—Similar activity is visible in the fields of lighter literature. Mr. Charles Dickens announces a new serial,—Mr. Thackeray is preparing to publish a new novel in the orthdox form of three volumes,—and Mr. Douglas Jerrold is understood to have a new serial in hand. The most voracious of literary gourmands will confess that this is not a bad bill of fare for the Christmas season.

The supplemental charter applied for by the Royal Commissioners for the Great Exhibition, to enable them to dispose of the surplus in their hands, has been issued.

We continue to receive a great variety of communications expressing sympathy with the view which our duty has compelled us to take of the painful and wholly unexplained case of the Baroness Von Beck:—and the characters of these communications, together with the quarters from which they come, lead us to hope that the gloomy silence in which the parties implicated have taken shelter from our inquisition will yet be broken at the bidding of some authority sufficient for the purpose.—"The men," says one who addresses us from Lincoln's Inn Fields, as interpreter of the feelings of a large body of friends, "who took the leading part in this prosecution, or persecution, one would naturally suppose to have possessed, and still to possess, proofs of the crime which they charged against their victim. If their object was to expose a literary fraud, where is the necessity for the deep mysterious silence which they maintain? Why are the proofs kept back from the public? Why, indeed, does not the public *insist* on its right to have laid before it the proofs of that guilt the imputa-

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tion of which brought the unfortunate woman charged with it before one of the public tribunals of justice, and thence to the grave?"—A barrister, who states himself to be of old standing, writes to complain that "the honour of his order is affected by the unprecedented conduct of Mr. Toulmin Smith":—and another asks why that gentleman is not called on to give some explanation to his governing body—that is, to the Benchers of his Inn—of the extraordinary use made by him of the professional character with which they had invested him.—A correspondent of a very different kind gives us a dim hint, from personal knowledge, of some of the springs that seem to have set this terrible intrigue in motion:—and another furnishes a most curious comment on Mr. Toulmin Smith's proceedings in this case, which it will probably be worth while some day to lay before our readers.—We repeat, we cannot think that, in the face of an interest in the subject such as we hear everywhere expressed, a self-attributed irresponsibility like that assumed by the parties to the strange and fatal proceedings in question can finally be maintained.

The daily papers announce the death, at Boulogne, on the 27th of November, of Basil Montagu, Q.C., the learned editor of Lord Bacon—but to be known hereafter more enduringly as the friend of Coleridge. Mr. Montagu was the son of Lord Sandwich (Jemmy Twitcher) by the unfortunate Miss Ray, killed in the Piazza of Covent Garden, in the year 1779, in a fit of frantic jealousy by the Rev. Mr. Hackman. The murder has been commemorated in a Grub Street Ballad, which Sir Walter Scott was fond of quoting.—

> A Sandwich favourite was this fair,
>   And her he dearly lov'd;
> By whom six children had, we hear;
>   This story fatal prov'd.
>
> A clergyman, O wicked one,
>   In Covent Garden shot her;
> No time to cry upon her God,
>   It's hop'd He's not forgot her.

Mr. Montagu was a member of Gray's Inn; and is said to have selected that Inn of Court from his early idolatry (such we may truly call it) for the works and even character of Lord Bacon. He was called to the Bar in 1798;—but never distinguished himself either on circuit or in Westminster Hall. In conversation he was argumentative, yet cool; and on most occasions was a listener after Coleridge's own heart. As a writer he has but slender merit. His 'Life of Bacon' is not distinguished by any beauties of style, any particular grasp of thought, or any great novelty of research; and his edition of Bacon's works is, it is said, about to be superseded by an edition from other hands. His knowledge of our early literature was extensive; and his volumes of selections from Taylor, Barrow and others were made with taste and learning.—He was in his 82nd year.

"Amongst the useful and benevolent who have departed," says the *Manchester Examiner and Times*, "we have this day to number the scientific and philanthropic Peter Clare,—a gentleman extensively known and highly respected. He was in the seventy-first year of his age. Mr. Clare was for many years secretary of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, and subsequently the vice-president. He was an intimate friend of Dr. Dalton, whom he constantly attended during his last illness,—and was appointed one of his executors. Mr. Clare was well acquainted with the meteorological investigations of Dr. Dalton; and after his death, continued the observations which he had commenced."

The French papers report the death, in Paris, of an eminent physician, Dr. Honoré, a member of the Academy of Medicine.

The case pending between the Commissioners of Inland Revenue and the proprietors of the *Household Narrative of Current Events* has been decided in favour of the latter. Three of the four Judges decided against the inference that the *Household Narrative* is a newspaper within the terms of the statute:—Baron Parke being the dissentient. This decision sets a multitude of uncertainties as regards what has been already ventured at rest: but it is generally understood that the reform bill to be introduced next session will regulate all such matters on a new basis.

At the last meeting of the British Association at Ipswich, a resolution was passed calling for a Report "on the best means of selecting and arranging a series of *typical* Objects illustrative of the three Kingdoms of Nature for Provincial Museums." The good to be effected by such a Report will be obvious to all who have had anything to do with the arrangement of museums. In our collections of natural history objects are often got together without any thought as to how they shall be rendered instructive to those who look at them. The call for this report originated with Prof. Henslow,—who is the present President of the Ipswich Museum; and he has just published a short account of an attempt made under his direction to arrange a series of typical objects illustrative of geology in this institution. In this account he says—"The illustrations already arranged carry us back (in a retrograde sequence) no further than to the commencement of the Tertiary epoch. Some of these illustrations refer to the effects produced by causes still in operation, or which have operated within the last 100 years, 1,000 years, 2,000 years and 4,000 years." In addition to specimens, small woodcuts, models and diagrams have been made use of; so that this portion of the Museum is made to tell an instructive history, which is so much better than that told in a book as it is illustrated by specimens of real objects. Prof. Henslow is anxious to receive hints from all persons engaged in natural history pursuits as to the best specimens to carry out his object of illustrating the various divisions of animals, plants and minerals. Those who are interested in this subject will have an opportunity of examining the Ipswich specimens to advantage at the next Anniversary of the Museum,—which will be held on the 17th of the present month. Although the Report called for modestly speaks of Provincial Museums, we feel convinced that the idea suggested is one that might be most satisfactorily worked out in our metropolitan institutions. Surely it would not be beneath the dignity of the British Museum or of its officers that one of their rooms should be devoted to a series such as that proposed by Prof. Henslow.

The Corporation of London is just now making an effort to appear well before the public. It is talking largely of city improvements. It is building new streets, and discussing a proposition for a City railway. It has formally acknowledged the want of public baths and waiting-rooms. It has even admitted that the streets are narrow—the open spaces few and far between,—that there is hardly room to breathe or move between the Temple and the Tower. These confessions, applicable to the City generally, are especially applicable to the region about St. Paul's. The purlieus of Newgate, the recesses about Doctors' Commons, the almost impenetrable alleys behind Paternoster-row, close that structure round on every side. A little space at the west front, miserably insufficient as it is as the foreground to an edifice of such altitude and grandeur—is cut off, as everybody knows, by an ugly iron railing, from men who are compelled to live and move about it.—Mr. Barber, we see, has at last carried the motion for an application to the Dean and Chapter to remove this railing which had been before formally made and lost in the Common Council.

The *Times* states that there is an intention among our Arctic officers "to propose a national testimonial to Mr. Grinnell, for his noble and humane conduct in fitting out, at his private expense, the expedition which sailed last year from the United States in search of Sir John Franklin, under the command of Lieut. De Haven."

The following is from a Correspondent:—and is suggestive of a large amount of moral salvage which might be effected if the more favoured portion of society would but read in an earnest spirit the duties that are plainly written up at their doors.—"In a short street in St. Giles's there are upwards of *five hundred* men herded together in the nightly lodging-houses. In the evenings of the week-day, and on the whole of Sunday, they are to be found in groups in the kitchens, or rather cellars, of these houses—and I need hardly say how such time is spent.—For some months past they have been visited by gentlemen, who have distributed to them gratuitously periodical publications suited to their capacity and supplying wholesome literary food. So thankful have the men been for this mark of attention, that it was determined to carry the matter further by opening a reading-room for their use. On Tuesday evening last a meeting was convened in the Neal's Yard School Room, Seven Dials, that the men might see the room, and express their own views as to the plan proposed to be adopted. Upwards of seventy men were in attendance, and the Rev. William Brock, of Bloomsbury Chapel, presided.—The plan was explained by the chairman, and the men were asked to speak freely their minds. The result was, the passing of the following resolutions:—'That the Neal's Yard School be opened as a reading-room for the use of the occupiers of the Kitchens of this Neighbourhood.—That a charge of *one penny* per week be made to each man by way of membership; but if paid for *six weeks* in succession, the amount to be placed to his credit in a *penny bank* to be established.—That the room be opened on week nights from 6 to 10 o'clock, and on Sundays from 2 o'clock till 9.'"

The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge has just announced as the subject of the Le Bas Prize—founded with a view to promote the study of the history, institutions and interests of our Anglo-Indian empire,—'A View of the Routes successively taken by the Commerce between Europe and the East, and of the Political Effects produced by the several changes.' Candidates for the prize must be Bachelors of Arts under the standing of M.A.,—or students in Civil Law or Medicine of not less than four or more than seven years' standing, not being graduates in either faculty, but having kept the exercises necessary for the degree of Bachelor of Law or of Medicine. The essays must be sent in to the Vice-Chancellor before the end of Easter Term 1852,—each bearing some motto, and accompanied by a sealed paper bearing the same motto and enclosing the name of the candidate and that of his college. We may add, as making the money prize—rather under 60*l*.—hardly a prize at all, that the successful candidate is required to publish the essay at his own expense.

On Wednesday in next week a Conference of parties interested in the great social and moral problem of juvenile crime will be held in Birmingham. This, if we mistake not, is the first attempt made in this country to bring the men theoretically and practically acquainted with a subject which we have for many years pressed on the consideration of our readers together for the purpose of discussion. Abroad there have been many such meetings. America has set a noble example to Europe in the attention paid to this profoundly interesting question. There, science and humane sentiment are organized in the service of society,—the treatment of incipient crime has its own literary organs,—and its promoters sit in frequent congresses. At Frankfort and in Brussels conferences on prison discipline have been held. But this country—though it was Howard who gave the first impulse to such a reform in Europe—has hitherto made no public demonstration of its interest in such matters. Yet no problem of this age is of more signal importance:—the moral life of the State being concerned in its solution.—The object of the approaching Conference is,—to collect and organize opinion in, for this purpose, influential quarters, with a view to a strong joint representation being made at once to the ministers of the Crown. That the present treatment of juvenile crime is defective, there can be no doubt:—but the great point is, to discover a mode in which the heirs of crime may be relieved from their fatal inheritance. This subject the Conference will discuss. We shall watch their proceedings with more than ordinary interest, for, as our readers know, there are few subjects on which we have laboured in our sphere so long and earnestly.

Letters from Berlin of the 25th ult. announce the arrival of Lieut. Pim in that capital,—and his departure for St. Petersburgh. The gallant officer

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was introduced by Baron Humboldt to the King, and dined with His Majesty at Potsdam. The King expressed great interest in the object of Lieut. Pim's expedition,—and furnished him with letters to the Emperor of Russia.

"When the department of the Ministry of Public Instruction was created four or five years ago in Constantinople," says a Correspondent, "it became apparent that there existed a great desideratum of Moslem civilization, necessary to be supplied as soon as possible:—a Turkish Vocabulary and a Turkish Grammar compiled according to the high developement of modern philology. The Grammar has now been published; being compiled by Fuad Effendi, *mustesher* of the Grand Vizer—a man known for his high attainments,—assisted by Ahmed Djesvid Effendi, another member of the Council of Instruction. The work has been printed at Constantinople by Mr. Churchill, and is to be had through the usual channels of the booksellers. Translations will be made into several languages:—the French edition being now in preparation by two gentlemen belonging to the Foreign Office of the Sublime Porte, who have obtained a privilege of ten years for its sale."

The Scientific Expedition which, as our readers may remember, set out from Copenhagen at the beginning of last June for Greenland, with a view to examining into the mineralogical wealth of the great chain of hills which divides that country throughout its entire length has, it is reported from Denmark, already met with encouragement towards the prosecution of its researches. On the very first breaking ground in the mountains neighbouring the Danish colony of Julianehaab, the party came on copper formations, lying close to the surface, branching away in three several directions, and appearing to have great depth and great horizontal extent. The engineers placed at the head of this Expedition are sanguine, from the great analogy observable between the conformation of the Ural Mountains and that of the hills of Greenland, in their expectation of finding in the latter mines of gold, of platina, and perhaps of silver.

The friends of the Ocean Penny Postage project, says Mr. Elihu Burritt, will be pleased to learn, that simultaneous and energetic steps will be taken in Great Britain and in the United States to press it upon the consideration of the two Governments during the next sessions of Parliament and of the United States Congress. "The late reduction of the inland postage to a uniform rate of three-halfpence throughout the American Union has facilitated the establishment of an ocean penny postage between that country and Great Britain; and a lively interest is already excited on that side of the Atlantic in behalf of a measure which would so incalculably promote the commerce and correspondence between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon family. Mr. Barnabas Bates, the Rowland Hill of America, to whose indefatigable exertions the country is chiefly indebted for the blessings of cheap inland postage, will give his experienced talent to the work of pressing the United States Government, by the force of public opinion, to the necessary steps for realizing this ocean postal reform."—"There is every probability," Mr. Burritt says, "that the United States Government will be prepared to meet in a cordial and liberal spirit any advance on the part of the British Government towards this great object. In Great Britain the necessity and feasibility of this important measure, and the vast and countless benefits which it would confer on the world, are coming to be more fully seen, felt, and appreciated,—not only by the relations and friends of the hundreds of thousands who are emigrating yearly from these islands to America and other regions of the globe, but also by the great and influential commercial communities and associations of the Kingdom. The Chambers of Commerce in Manchester and Liverpool have resolved to memorialize Parliament in favour of the measure during the approaching session. Steps are being taken to secure, it is hoped, a thousand petitions from different towns or communities, to that body; and public meetings are to be held to interest all classes in the project."—The Society of Arts, it should be added, have also taken up the subject of an ocean penny postage. The ocean penny post once established between this country and the United States, it would soon, as Mr. Burritt says, follow in all other directions.

NOW OPEN.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec. Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The Diorama of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Docks, Cintra, the Tagus, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mausoleum, "The Taj Mehal," the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior,—immediately preceded by the CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN.—is exhibited Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

RE-OPENING OF THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION on MONDAY, December 8, 1851.—A POPULAR LECTURE on the ADVANCEMENT of AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY, daily, at Two o'clock, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., in addition to other LECTURES on CHEMISTRY.—PRIZE MODEL of Mr. MECHI'S FARMERY at TIPTREE HALL explained.—A NEW LECTURE on the HISTORY of the HARP, by F. Chatterton, Esq., for Two Weeks only, at Eight in the Evenings, with Illustrations on ERARD'S GREAT EXHIBITION HARP, and Vocal Accompaniment by Miss Blanche Younge.—LECTURE by Dr. Bachhoffner on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION. This Lecture has been arranged expressly for the instruction and amusement of the Junior Branches visiting the Institution during the Holydays.—NUMEROUS PRIZE MODELS, WORKS of ART, &c. from the Great Exhibition will be explained by Mr. Crisse.—OPTICAL EFFECTS in DISSOLVING VIEWS, PHYSIOSCOPE, OPAQUE MICROSCOPE, CHROMATROPE, &c.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five, and every evening, except Saturday, from Seven till half-past Ten.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—*Dec.* 1.—The *Anniversary Meeting* was held this day:—the Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair. His Lordship delivered his annual address; after which the Copley medal was awarded to Prof. Owen, for his important discoveries in comparative anatomy and palæontology, contained in the 'Philosophical Transactions,'—one of the Royal medals to the Earl of Rosse, for his 'Observations on the Nebulæ,' published in the 'Philosophical Transactions,'—and the Second Royal medal to G. Newport, Esq., for his paper 'On the Impregnation of the Ovum in the Amphibia,' also published in the 'Philosophical Transactions.'—The Society then proceeded to the election of its Council and officers; and the following noblemen and gentlemen were declared elected.—*President*, the Earl of Rosse; *Treasurer*, Lieut.-Col. E. Sabine; *Secretaries*, S. H. Christie and T. Bell, Esqs.; *Foreign Secretary*, Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N.; other *Members of the Council*, W. Bowman, Esq., *B. C. Brodie, Esq., C. Brooke, Esq.*, The Rev. Prof. Challis, *W. Clark, M.D., C. G. B. Daubeny, M.D.*, Sir P. de Malpas Grey Egerton, *The Dean of Ely, J. P. Gassiot, Esq.*, Marshall Hall, M.D., *Sir J. F. W. Herschel*, Prof. W. H. Miller, *Lieut.-Col. Portlock, R.E.*, E. Solly, Esq., *W. Spence, Esq.*, and *N. Wallich, M.D.*—The names of new Members of the Council are printed in italics.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—*Nov.* 24.—Sir Woodbine Parish, V.P., in the chair.—Among donations presented to the library since the preceding Meeting, the Chairman directed attention to the munificent present of maps and charts from Field Marshal de Scribanek, of Vienna:—to whom a special vote of thanks was passed,—and he was elected by acclamation an Honorary Member. Don Pascual Madaz, of Madrid, the author of the great 'Diccionario-Geografico-Estadistico-Historico de España y sus Posesiones de Ultramar,' was elected a Corresponding Member; and Sir W. Molesworth, Capt. W. Ramsay, R.N., J. Ewing, Esq., E. J. Harrington, Esq., the Rev. S. Clark, W. W. Bird, Esq., Lieut. B. C. Pim, R.N., Dr. B. Bynol, Dr. W. F. Daniell, R. M. Fox, Esq., Capt. R. Strachey, and W. Blackett, Esq., were elected Fellows.—The Secretary read the correspondence between Sir R. I. Murchison, as President of the Society, and the Imperial Geographical authorities of Russia, respecting the Expeditions of Dr. Waliin to Arabia and of Lieut. Pim to Siberia; and mentioned that several applications had been made even from foreign officers to accompany Lieut. Pim. All these had been declined:—it having been resolved to intrust the arrangements of the Expedition as far as possible to the Russian authorities.—The thanks of the Society were voted to the President for having so successfully devoted his best energies to the carrying out of Lieut. Pim's project,—and to Lord John Russell for his compliance with the request of the Council by the immediate grant of 500*l.* towards the Expedition and for the handsome manner in which his Lordship had conveyed his assent.

The paper read was, 'Notes on the late Geographical Discoveries in the Arctic Regions,' by Capt. E. Ommanney, R.N.—The substance of this paper having already appeared in our columns, it is unnecessary that we should here give any abstract of its historical portion. We observe, however, that Capt. Ommanney has taken occasion to draw a very gloomy picture of the hardships to which his Expedition was exposed. No one, we fancy, ever supposed that Arctic exploration was unattended with much labour; but we do not find the officers who preceded Capt. Ommanney or his coadjutors in the search for the missing Expedition along the coast of North America talking of their difficulties as anything uncommon. Capt. Ommanney alludes in one instance to the cold as having been intolerable, and conceives that the climate of the Arctic regions which he traversed must have altered considerably. He is led to this conclusion by having met on the coast of North Devon with thickly-scattered traces of Esquimaux settlements, having graves of a superior kind covered with flat slabs of masonry,—thus evidencing that there must have been a supply at that period of animal food; whereas he states that at present it would be utterly impossible for a man to kill in the course of two months animals sufficient to support him during the remaining ten. This remark, happily, is of little consequence in connexion with the missing Expedition:—as we know that it is *not* on the coast of North Devon, and that it probably is in a part of the Arctic regions abounding with animal life.

Lieut. Osborne, who commanded one of the Screw Steamers attached to Capt. Austin's Expedition, having been called on by the chairman, took a much more cheerful view of the case, and entirely repudiated the idea that Sir John Franklin had turned homeward after wintering in Wellington Channel, and been wrecked in Baffin's Bay.—He stated that he had received a letter from his friend Lieut. Halkett, mentioning that he had heard in Paris from M. Bonet, a distinguished officer in the French Navy, who was in London at the period of Sir John Franklin's departure, that he was assured by Lieut. Fairholm—who is attached to Franklin's Expedition—that he and all the officers of the Expedition looked forward to the possibility of spending six years in the Arctic Seas.—Lieut. Osborne believed that Sir John Franklin having searched the entrance to Wellington Channel, had entered on the exploration of its shores with the determination to make his way by it as far to the northward as he could.—In Barrow's Straits and Wellington Channel he had observed signs which to his mind seemed to go far towards proving the existence of a northern basin, or Polar Sea. Three months before Capt. Austin's ships were enabled to leave their winter quarters, Capt. Penny and his officers discovered to the north an open and angry sea. He had seen enormous numbers of whales in September 1850, running southwards from under the ice of Wellington Channel; and as these animals cannot exist in a frozen sea, it was evident that they had been in open water, and were running to open water, having merely passed under a barrier of ice in Wellington Channel, as they have to do earlier in the season in Davis's Strait to reach the open water in Lancaster Sound. The flights of ducks and geese which were observed flying from the north in 1850 presented additional evidence that open water existed to the north, and that they had found an unfrozen sea, which furnished food. All their experience tended to prove a higher temperature to the north, and that vast numbers of

animals inhabited that part of the Arctic regions. The tides, in his opinion, strongly demonstrate the existence of a polar basin; for while the Atlantic supplies the great tidal wave for Baffin's Bay and Lancaster Sound, Barrow's Straits are fed by a tidal wave from an opposite direction. In conclusion, he expressed his conviction that Sir John Franklin had reached a very high latitude in that sea.—Sir E. Belcher quite agreed with Lieut. Osborne that there was little reason to doubt that Franklin had gone up Wellington Channel. With regard to the whales, the probability was, that they sought the salmon fry up Wellington Channel, and then came out round Cockburn Island, on the north-west coast of which salmon were so abundant that they were taken with the hand.—The Chairman said, everything pointed clearly to Wellington Channel. He was now encouraged to hope that Sir John Franklin was still living.

The 26th volume of the Society's Journal was announced to be ready for the next meeting on the 8th of December.

Geological.—*Nov.* 19.—Prof. E. Forbes, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. J. Percy and S. Benson, Esq. were elected Fellows.—The following communication was read:—'On the Granitic Blocks of the South Highlands of Scotland,' by W. Hopkins, Esq.—The principal object of the author was, to trace the granite blocks scattered on the north of the Clyde, along the shores of Loch Lomond, Loch Long and Loch Fine, and those on the shores of Loch Etive and Loch Awe, to their respective origins. The latter were immediately traceable to the central mass of granite in the group of mountains, of which Ben Cruachan is the chief, extending from the Pass of Awe northward to Glencoe. The upper part of Loch Etive penetrates this granitic nucleus, whence the blocks have been transported to the neighbourhood of Oban in great numbers. The valley of Glenray penetrates the granite mass on the east, and along this valley the blocks have been conveyed to the head of Loch Awe. On the north of Loch Long, and separated from Ben Lomond on the east by the upper part of Loch Lomond, is an important group of mountains, comprising the Cobbler, Ben Nime, Ben Voirlich, Ben Loy, &c., which has also its central granitic nucleus. A valley from the head of Loch Long and small lateral valleys of steep ascent from Loch Lomond penetrate the mass of granite in the east, and have afforded means of transport for blocks down to these lakes respectively. On the west it is in like manner penetrated by Glen Fine, along which numerous blocks have been transported to the head of Loch Fine. It was our previous ignorance of the existence of this granitic nucleus that created the great apparent difficulty of accounting for the presence of the erratic blocks on the shores of these lakes and along the Clyde.—The author entered into some discussion of theoretical views respecting the different agencies by which these blocks may have been transported to the localities which they now occupy.

Society of Antiquaries.—*Nov.* 27.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, V.P., in the chair.—Lord Londesborough handed in a letter he had received from Mr. R. Smith, communicating the discovery of a Roman Bridge at Grimston, near Tadcaster, on his lordship's estate. The bridge has been long well known; but it is only recently that indubitable marks of Roman construction have been pointed out,—among them the mason's marks still remaining on some of the largest stones. Mr. Smith's letter was accompanied by drawings strongly confirming his view of the subject:—which produced a good deal of discussion between Lord Londesborough, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Wright, Mr. Smith, the chairman, and others, on an incidental point raised by Lord Londesborough,—viz. whether there were any really Roman remains at Godmonham, a place mentioned nearly by that name by the Venerable Bede, and the scene of some remarkable historical incidents. Mr. Hunter was of opinion that the relics of edifices there were anterior to Saxon times; while Mr. R. Smith, from such examination as he had lately made, was decidedly inclined to think that they were even later than the period of the Norman Conquest. The Vice President hoped that this discrepancy of opinion would be settled by a more detailed examination; and the noble owner of the property was understood to express himself ready in every way to aid in the accomplishment of the object.—Mr. Botfield transmitted a few large beads of amber of very great antiquity—belonging in fact to the British, or rather Celtic period—which had been found under basaltic soil in Staffordshire, where they had remained hidden for many centuries. They attracted much notice:—all present agreeing that they were probably anterior to anything of the kind yet brought to light. — Sir G. Musgrave presented impressions and wood-blocks of what must have been in use prior to any known horn-book,—consisting of an alphabet engraved backwards upon hone-stone, and meant for striking of impressions in lead, or perhaps clay, for the instruction of those who wished to learn to read. The form of the letters indicated, we think, that it was not quite so old as the owner appeared to imagine. It had been found in pulling down an old wall of Sir G. Musgrave's mansion in Cumberland. —Mr. Wylye exhibited some additional Anglo-Saxon remains from the neighbourhood of Fairford; —but they did not possess any striking novelty.—An invitation was read from the chair to any members of the Society who could attend a meeting, in February next, in Paris, of men of science and research from various countries of Europe, under the presidency of M. Caumont of Normandy.

Institute of British Architects.—*Dec.* 1.—Mr. Hardwick, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. C. B. Allen read a paper 'On the Formation of a School of Art for Artist Workmen, and the establishment of a Museum of Mediæval Art.' The author dwelt on the importance of artistic knowledge to workmen engaged in carrying out the designs of the architect, so far as regards its practical application to their respective trades as masons, carvers, smiths, &c. By reference to the decorative architectural details of ancient and modern edifices, he showed the artistic inferiority of the workmen of the present time; and proceeded to prove that the Government Schools of Design were not calculated to supply the wants of architects in this respect. Mr. Allen proposed the formation of a school in which the workman should be practically taught the application of Art to his trade, in all the different stages of its execution. He also enforced the necessity of a museum of architectural ornaments and other details, as of the greatest possible importance. The views of the author were adopted by most of the speakers in the discussion which followed,—although some doubt was expressed as to the entire practicability of his proposed mode of instruction. The intended collection of Mediæval Antiquities in the British Museum was referred to, with anticipations of much benefit; and the occasion was taken to claim for "the North London School of Drawing and Modelling," which has been for some time in successful operation at Camden Town, the merit due to it as a first attempt to render Art accessible to workmen.

Linnean.—*Nov.* 18.—R. Brown, Esq. in the chair.—A collection of specimens in natural history, which had been exhibited in the Crystal Palace, from Van Diemen's Land, was presented by Dr. Milligan, Secretary to the Royal Society of Van Diemen's Land. The specimens consisted of a large assortment of woods, the produce of Tasmanian trees,—a case of birds,—a specimen of "native bread," the produce of a species of fungus named *Mylitta Australis*,—necklaces made from shells belonging to the genus Elonchus,—gum from the *Acacia mucronata*,—Kino, from a species of Eucalyptus, and other things.—A letter was read from J. Hogg, Esq. of Stockton-on-Tees, describing the circumstance of a vine producing ripe grapes near that town,—the latitude being 54° 35'. —Mr. White exhibited specimens which he had received from Dr. Gilbert of lead which had been employed for lining a cistern, and which was punctured in many places by a small beetle (*Anobium striatum*). He mentioned other instances of lead having been bored by beetles. In all these cases the object was to escape from confinement; and no insect fed on lead,—as had been sometimes asserted. —A portion of a paper was read from J. Miers, Esq., 'On two new Genera of Plants.' The first genus described was Tetraraphia,—so named from the four long awns to its involucre. This plant belonged to the order Eriogoneæ.—Mr. Marnock presented specimens of the flower and leaf of *Victoria Regia*,—also fruits of the *Cucumis prophetarum* and *Momordica charantia*.

Dec. 2.—W. Yarrell, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. Moore of the Botanic Garden, Chelsea, presented specimens of the staminiferous cones of *Zamia furfuracea* to the Museum.—Mr. Adam White exhibited two boxes of insects, containing chiefly new or rare species from South America, collected by Messrs. F. Smith and H. W. Bates. In the collection made by the latter gentleman were many species of butterfly, one of the most beautiful of which had been named after him *Galathea Batesii*. In speaking of Mr. Bates, Mr. White said that he had left England in May 1848, and had collected plants and insects in the neighbourhood of Para, and afterwards proceeded up the Amazons, as far as Ega, and had sent home many very valuable collections. He returned to Para in May last, and was now anxious to proceed to investigate the natural history of the branch of the Amazons, known as the Rio Tapajos. He had been much hampered for want of means, but, provided he could obtain resources, he hoped to remain in this district for two or three years. The mouth of the Tapajos, where the town of Santarem is situated, is about 500 miles from Para; the river extends 1,000 or 1,200 miles into the interior of Brazil, to the province of Matto Grapo.—A continuation of Mr. Miers's paper 'On Two New Genera of South American Plants, was read. The second genus belonged to the order Bignoniaceæ. It was a leafless shrubby spinous plant, eight feet high; hence the name proposed for it by the author was that of *Oxycladus aphyllus*. It differs in some material points from the order to which it belongs, and constitutes a sub-order, *Oxycladeæ*.

Microscopical.—*Nov.* 26.—Dr. A. Farre, President, in the chair.—Dr. Carpenter detailed the results of some observations made by Mr. Williamson, of Manchester, on the *Volvox Globator*. He stated, that, startling as the assertion might at first sight appear, Mr. Williamson had come to the conclusion that the Volvox belongs not to the animal, but to the vegetable kingdom, and that he himself having gone over the evidence was inclined to concur in this view. The increase of the cells (from the supposed ova) being carried on in a manner precisely analogous to that of undoubted algæ, while many of the so-called polygastric animalcules of Ehrenberg having been proved to be spores of some of the confervæ, renders the supposition probable. It appears from Mr. Williamson's observations, that between the outer integument and the primordial cell wall of each cell, a hyaline substance is secreted, causing the outer integument to expand; and as the primordial cell wall is attached to it at various points, it causes the internal colouring matter, or endochrome, to assume a stellate form, the points of one cell being in contact with those of the neighbouring cells, these points forming at a future period the lines of communication between the green spots so often noticed on the adult volvox.—Dr. Carpenter urged that the evident automatic action of the vibratile ciliæ was also in favour of the vegetable theory, and cited a case in which a cistern that had been recently cleared out, and partially filled by rain only, had become suddenly and rapidly covered with a bright green scum, which on examination proved to be the cryptomonas of Ehrenberg. ... water could have contained nothing in solution with the exception of probably a little carbon... Dr. Carpenter thought that the distinction between the animal and vegetable kingdoms could be best defined by having regard to the nutriment ... by any other mode,—animals requiring organic matter for food, while vegetables flourish on inorganic matter, or else organic matter in a state of decomposition. The cryptomonadina must, therefore, be considered as undoubtedly vegetable ... these were followed by an abundant produc...

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rotifera, the way having been prepared for the animals by the previous vegetable developement.—Mr. Bowerbank rose, not to oppose Dr. Carpenter's view, but to ask some questions in order to elicit further information. Was it an established fact that there were ciliæ, or was their presence merely inferred from the motion? Was there any discharge of the contents of the primordial cell,—and if so, was the contraction sudden or gradual? He had witnessed a similar appearance in the early cells of some of the ferns, in which it was assumed in consequence of the sudden ejection of the contents,—and he appealed to Mr. Deane, who had paid much attention to the developement of the ferns in the earliest stages.—Mr. Deane stated that he conceived Mr. Bowerbank had misapprehended Dr. Carpenter's statement; as the stellate appearance in the cells of the volvox was owing to the *dilation* of the outer integument in consequence of the formation of hyaline substance, while the appearance in the ferns was owing to the *contraction* of the inner membrane. There was no doubt of the existence of ciliæ in the mature volvox.—Mr. Shadbolt could speak distinctly as to the presence of ciliæ in the volvox; although difficult to see while the creature was in motion, they could be readily observed by confining it, and still more so by compressing and rupturing the sphere, by which means, at the torn edges, they could even be counted. He was not yet prepared to coincide with the vegetable view; and reminded Dr. Carpenter that the automatic nature of the movements could not be considered as any argument in favour of a vegetable theory, as it was precisely analogous to the automatic retraction of the tentacula in the Bryozoa. His chief objection, however, was, that the volvox presented a most anomalous appearance when viewed as a *perfect plant*,—while the idea of its being a sporangium could scarcely be maintained when precisely similar individuals were formed by a species of reproduction. He believed no instance was known of a seed producing a seed.—Dr. Carpenter replied that certainly in the mosses an increase in the seeds was produced by germination,—and this might be looked on as a somewhat similar case.

PHILOLOGICAL.—*Nov.* 21.—E. Guest, Esq., the Honorary Secretary, read a paper 'On a Curious Case of *Tmesis* sometimes met with in Anglo-Saxon and Early English Syntax';—which is, that when a compound term consists of two substantives, or of a substantive and adjective, the component parts of such compound will occasionally open, and admit some qualifying word, generally an adjective. For instance, you find in Bosworth's Dictionary, as a regular compound work, *sæ-naca*, sea skiff or sea-boat. Grimm in his Grammar quotes the passage:—

Þær wæson sande. SÆ GEAP NACA
hladen here-wædum:

which, translated, is—

"There was on the sand the curved sea-boat
Laden with war-habiliments."

The compound *sæ naca* has evidently opened, and let in the qualifying adjective *geap*. It will hardly be credited that Grimm quotes this passage as his authority for making *sæ geap* an Anglo-Saxon compound: he gives no translation of his new term *sæ geap* (and no wonder); but he translates *geap* by *patulus*, though the only meaning in which I have ever seen it used is *curvus* or *curvatus*. Kemble, like Grimm, makes *sæ-geap* a compound, and translates it by "curved above the sea."—The objections to this translation are twofold. There are no Anglo-Saxon compounds which admit of an analogous construction,—and the phrase "curved over the sea" is not true to nature. Again, in *Cædmon*, 192, we find this passage.—

And thee, frea mihtig. forstas and snawas.
WINTER BITER WEDER. and wolcen faru,
herige on lyfte.

"And thee, mighty Lord, the frosts and the snows,
The bitter winter weather, and the welkin's course,
Praise in the lyft! (air)."

Here, to my mind, *winter-weder* is the compound substantive, and *biter* an adjective intruded between the two component parts. Grimm, however, makes *winter-biter* the compound,—but gives no translation of it. Mr. Thorpe also makes *winter-biter* the compound, and translates *winter biter weder* "by winter's bitter weather":—how he gets his "winter's bitter weather" from the Anglo-Saxon "*winter biter weder*" it would be difficult to say—his translation and his text are clearly inconsistent. Another regular Anglo-Saxon compound is *mere-wic*, "a sea-station, a roadstead," and in Alfred, 93·1, we find "*mere smylta wic*," "a mild roadstead." Mr. Fox, it is true, translates this "*a great* tranquil station"; but this arises from his having mistaken *mere*, sea, for *mære*, great. In the Exeter MS., p. 332, we find this passage.—

swa wrætlice. WEOROD ANES GOD.
geond middan geard. monna cræftas
sceop and scyrede.—

which Mr. Thorpe translates,

"Thus wondrously the God of Hosts
Over mid earth, men's powers
Has created and allotted:"

making *weorod-god* a compound, as no doubt it is. But Mr. Thorpe has quietly *ignored* the inserted word *anes*, which has puzzled him and many others. The fact is, that the neuter Anglo-Saxon adjectives *an* and *self* were frequently used as substantives, and sometimes in the genitive case.—the phrase "*weorod anes god*" might be literally translated "the Host God, *of his oneness*," that is, "of himself alone." The idiom which we are now discussing will explain a difficult passage in the Brunan-burg war-song:—

Æthelstan cyng. eorla drihten.
beorna beag-gifa. and his brothor eac
eadmund ætheling. EALDOR LANGNE TIR
geslogan æt sæcce.

"Athelstan king, of earls the Lord,
Of Barons the ring-giver, and his brother eke
Edmund the Etheling, *of princes a long train*,
Slew in battle":—

ealdor-tir being the compound substantive, and *langne* the inserted adjective. Examples of this *Tmesis* are very rare in the later periods of our literature; though even as late as the seventeenth century we have—

"Eve walking forth about the forrests gathers
Speights, parrots, peacocks, *estrich scattered feathers*."
—Sylv. Du Bart.—*Handicrafts*.

Mr. Guest gave other examples:—and a discussion took place.—Mr. Cocknigne suggested the compound "newspaper-articles," and the phrase "newspaper wordy articles" as analogous.—Prof. Key considered that in compound substantives the first component had always been a genitive, as in "monden-licht," "moonlight,"—nachtegall," "nightingale" (music or bird of the night).

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*Nov.* 25.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Application of Machinery to the Manufacture of Rotating Chambered-Breech Fire-Arms, and the Peculiarities of those Arms,' by Col. S. Colt, of the United States.—The communication commenced with an historical account of such rotating chamber fire-arms as had been discovered by the author in his researches after specimens of the early efforts of armourers for the construction of repeating weapons, the necessity for which appears to have been long ago admitted. The collections in the Tower of London, the United Service Museum, the Rotunda at Woolwich, Warwick Castle, the Musée d'Artillerie, and the Hôtel Cluny, at Paris, as well as some ancient Eastern arms brought from India by Lord W. Bentinck, demonstrated the early efforts that had been made to produce arms capable of rapidly firing several times, consecutively, without the delay of loading after each discharge. Drawings of these specimens were exhibited; comprising the match-lock, the pyrites wheel-lock, the flint-lock, down to the percussion lock, as adapted by the author.—Among the match-lock guns some had as many as eight chambers, rotating by hand; and the length of the chambers, as well as the thinness of the barrel, showed the bad quality of the gunpowder at the period of their construction.—Some of the pyrites wheel-lock guns had also as many as eight chambers, and rotated by hand. One of them, made in the seventeenth century, had the peculiarity of igniting the charge close behind the bullet, burning backwards towards the breech; an arrangement identical in principle with that of the modern Prussian "Needle gun," for which great merit has been claimed.—The flint locks induced more determined efforts; but all were abortive, as the magazines for priming and the pan covers were continually blown off on the explosion of the charge. Indeed, from the earliest match-lock down to the present time, the premature explosion of several chambers, owing to the simultaneous ignition of the charges, from the spreading of the fire at their mouths, had been the great source of difficulty. In some of the most ancient specimens orifices were provided in the butt of the barrel for the escape of the bullets in case of explosion, whilst others had evidently been destroyed by this action. In a brass model of a pistol of the time of Charles the Second, from the United Service Museum, there was an ingenious attempt to cause the chamber to rotate by mechanical action, in some degree similar to, but more complicated than, the arms constructed by the author.—The "Coolidge" and the "Collier" guns, both flint guns of comparatively modern manufacture, exhibited the same radical defects, of liability to premature explosion.—The invention of Nock's patent breech, and the Rev. Mr. Forsyth's introduction of the detonating or percussion guns, which latter principle, with the necessary mechanical arrangements for the caps, was essential to the safe construction of repeating fire-arms, constituted a new era in these weapons; and the author recognizing the peculiar wants in a country whose inhabitants were constantly moving onwards towards new settlements, where the pioneers were required to protect themselves and families by their personal prowess, frequently against fearful inequality of numbers, from the attacks of the aboriginal Indians, whose peculiar mode of warfare could be coped with only by rapid and repeated firing, it was natural that attention should be directed to the production of self-acting repeating arms. The author, being fully cognisant of these wants, but entirely unaware of any previous attempts to produce such weapons, made a series of experiments on skeleton fire-arms, which were very successful; but subsequently he fell into many of the errors of his predecessors,—for, by covering the breech and the mouths of the chambers, simultaneous explosion of several charges constantly occurred. This induced the restoration of the arms nearly to their original skeleton form; and the result was, the production of the present perfect arm, which has been so universally adopted in America that the author's large manufactory has proved quite insufficient to supply the demand.—The means for manufacturing these arms on so large a scale, was the main point of the paper; for, unlike the system adopted in England and on the Continent, of making fire-arms almost entirely by manual labour, the several parts comprising these weapons are forged, planed, shaped, slotted, drilled, tapped, bored, rifled, and even engraved by machinery, to such an extent that 10 per cent. only of the value of the arm was for hand labour in finishing and ornamenting,—90 per cent. being executed by automaton machines, guided by women and children, whose labour was represented by 10 per cent., leaving 80 per cent. for the machinery.—The action of these machines was described; and it appeared that though, like a cotton or flax mill, the manufactory, at first sight, appeared intricate, yet that each part travelled independently through its course, until at length the finishing workmen had only to put the several parts together, almost indiscriminately, and the uniformity was so precise, that little or no fitting was required beyond removing the "burr," or rough edge left by the machines. This was a point of great importance; especially in a country of such extent as America, where the necessity for sending arms from one district to another for repair might be attended with serious consequences.—The arms now manufactured by the author, and of which numerous specimens were exhibited, were of the simplest construction. The lock consisted of only five working parts contained in a lock-frame cut out from the solid metal, into which the breech arbor was firmly inserted, and by it rigidly attached to the barrel in such a manner as to regulate, with the greatest precision, the contact between the end of the barrel and the mouths of the cylinders, so as to prevent any serious escape of lateral fire.—The rotating of the cylinder was accomplished by a self-acting lever, to which motion was given by the act of drawing back the hammer; at half-cock the cylinder was

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free to rotate in one direction, for the purpose of loading and putting the caps on the nipples; the former operation being rapidly accomplished by the conversion of the ramrod into a jointed lever, attached to the barrel, by which means the bullets were rammed home so securely that no patch or wadding was required. The grooves in the barrel were of a peculiar spiral, commencing almost straight, near the breech end, and terminating at the muzzle in a curve of small radius. The bullets were of either cylindrical or conical shape; and from some diagrams of several practice targets sent from Woolwich, by Col. Chalmers, R.A., for exhibition, it appeared, that even by men unaccustomed to the use of this particular arm great precision of firing could be attained:—as with a small revolving belt pistol, at a distance of fifty yards, out of forty-eight shots twenty-five bullets took effect within a space of one foot square,—and of them, thirteen hit the bull's-eye, which was only six inches in diameter,—the whole number of shots striking the target.

Dec. 2.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—A discussion was renewed on the above subject; in which the Hon. R. J. Walker, Gen. M'Neill, Mr. Hodge, and other visitors, as well as a large number of the members, took part. The processes of manufacture were described; and the importance of machinery in a country like America, where labour is so dear, was shown.—The aid of English Civil Engineers was claimed in the great attempt to traverse the Isthmus of South America by a navigable ship canal for which the American engineers were the pioneers with the railway now in course of execution.—The following Associates were elected:—Messrs. J. J. Bagnell, W. M. Crosland, J. B. Palmer, C. Sells, J. P. Smith, J. H. Taunton, and J. Wilkinson.

Society of Arts.—*Nov.* 26.—H. T. Hope, Esq. in the chair.—In accordance with announcement [*ante*, p. 1150] the first of the proposed series of Lectures on the Great Exhibition was commenced this evening by Dr. Whewell,—who took for his subject 'The General Bearing of the Exhibition on the Progress of Art and Science.' The address gave great satisfaction to a very crowded meeting; but as this and the other lectures are all to be printed for general distribution, we shall not attempt to give a report unless any special points should require recording.

Dec. 2.—Sir H. de la Beche, 'On Mining, Quarrying and Metallurgical Processes and Products.'

Dec. 3.—T. Tooke, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—This being the day for the election of officers, the new Bye-Laws were brought into operation. By these rules it is decided that in future a certain proportion of the Vice-Presidents and Council shall retire annually, not being elegible for re-election for one year. It will be observed, that the Society took the opportunity of electing to the various offices those members who had prominent parts in carrying the Exhibition into effect.—The names in italics are the new officers.—*President*, H.R.H. Prince Albert; *Vice-Presidents, Duke of Buccleuch, Earl Carlisle, Earl of Ellesmere*, Earl Granville, Lord Colborne, Lord Overstone, Sir J. P. Boileau, *Right Hon. E. Strutt, M.P.*, Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P., H. T. Hope, M.P., G. Moffatt, M.P., S. M. Peto, M.P., R. Stephenson, M.P., *B. Botfield*, M.P., C. Barry, I. K. Brunel, *T. Creswick*, W. F. Cooke, C. Dickens, *C. W. Dilke, Jun.*, *M. Faraday*, *O. Jones, J. M. Rendel*, and W. Tooke, Esqs.; *Council*, J. Bell, *T. Cubitt*, J. Glynn, *H. T. Henry, W. Harding, Capt. H. C. Owen, Dr. Lyon Playfair*, J. Scott Russell, *W. W. Saunders, S. Smirke*, E. Solly, *T. Twining, Jun.*; *Treasurers*, P. Le Neve Foster, M.A., *H. Cole, C.B.*; *Auditors*, T. Winkworth, S. Redgrave; *Secretary*, G. Grove; *Collector*, S. T. Davenport.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—'Proposal for a Museum of Mankind,' by Geo. Catlin, Esq.—'Geographical Sketch of the Friendly Isles, with Account of the Visit of H.M. Ship Meander, Capt. Keppel, to Tongataboo, with numerous Illustrations, &c.' by Mr. O. W. Brierly.
— Royal Academy, 8.—Anatomical Lecture.
Tues. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.
— Syro-Egyptian, half-past 7.—'An Account of the Ancient Port and City of Seleucia, in Pieria, its Political and Commercial Position, and importance as the Key to the North of Syria, and High Road to India and Persia,' by Dr. W. Holt Yates.
— Civil Engineers, 8.—'Account of the Works on the Birmingham Extension of the Birmingham and Oxford Junction Railway,' by Mr. C. B. Lane.
Wed. Literary Fund, 3.
— Ethnological, half-past 8.—'A Report of a Tour in the New Hebrides and other Islands in the Western Pacific Ocean, by John Inglis, Missionary,' communicated by the Right Hon. Earl Grey, Secretary to the Colonies.—'Remarks on certain Views concerning the Peopling of the Islands of the Pacific Ocean,' by the Hon. Secretary.
— Society of Arts, 8.—Lectures on the Exhibition.—'On Animal Raw Products used in the Arts and Manufactures,' by Prof. Owen.
Thurs. Antiquaries, 8.
— Royal Society of Literature, 4.
— Royal, half-past 8.
Fri. Philological, 8.
— Astronomical, 8.
Sat. Asiatic, 2.
— Medical, 8.

ON THE PRODUCTION OF INSTANTANEOUS PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES.

It will probably be in the recollection of some of your readers that in the month of June last a successful experiment was tried at the Royal Institution in which the photographic image was obtained of a printed paper fastened upon a wheel, the wheel being made to revolve as rapidly as possible during the operation.

From this experiment the conclusion is inevitable, that it is in our power to obtain the pictures of all moving objects, no matter in how rapid motion they may be, provided we have the means of *sufficiently* illuminating them with a sudden electric flash. But here we stand in need of the kind assistance of scientific men who may be acquainted with methods of producing electric discharges more powerful than those in ordinary use. What is required, is, vividly to light up a whole apartment with the discharge of a battery:—the photographic art will then do the rest, and depict whatever may be moving across the field of view.

I had intended to communicate much earlier the details of this experiment at the Royal Institution, but was prevented from doing so at the time,—and soon afterwards I went on the Continent in order to observe the total solar eclipse of the 28th of July. This most interesting phenomenon I had the pleasure of witnessing at the little town of Marienburg, in the north-eastern corner of Prussia. The observations will appear, I believe, in a forthcoming volume of the Transactions of the Royal Astronomical Society. Among other things, I was enabled to make a satisfactory estimate of the degree of darkness during the total obscuration; which proved to be equal to that which existed one hour after sunset the same evening, the weather being during that evening peculiarly serene, so as to allow of a just comparison.

This Continental journey having effectually interrupted my photographic labours, I have only recently been able to resume them. I shall, therefore, now proceed to describe to you exactly the mode in which the plates were prepared which we used at the Royal Institution: at the same time not doubting that much greater sensibility will be attained by the efforts of the many ingenious persons who are now cultivating the art of photography. And it is evident that an increased sensibility would be as useful as an augmentation in the intensity of the electric discharge.

The mode of preparing the plates was as follows.—

1. Take the most liquid portion of the white of an egg, rejecting the rest. Mix it with an equal quantity of water. Spread it very evenly upon a plate of glass, and dry it at the fire. A strong heat may be used without injuring the plate. The film of dried albumen ought to be uniform and nearly invisible.

2. To an aqueous solution of nitrate of silver add a considerable quantity of alcohol, so that an ounce of the mixture may contain three grains of the nitrate. I have tried various proportions, from one to six grains, but perhaps three grains answer best. More experiments are here required, since the results are much influenced by this part of the process.

3. Dip the plate into this solution, and then let it dry spontaneously. Faint prismatic colours will then be seen upon the plate. It is important to remark, that the nitrate of silver appears to form a true chemical combination with the albumen, rendering it much harder, and insoluble in liquids which dissolved it previously.

4. Wash with distilled water to remove any superfluous portions of the nitrate of silver. Then give the plate a second coating of albumen similar to the first; but in drying it avoid heating it too much, which would cause a commencement of decomposition of the silver. I have endeavoured to dispense with this operation No. 4, as it is not so easy to give a perfectly uniform coating of albumen as in No. 1. But the inferiority of the results obtained without it induces me for the present to consider it as necessary.

5. To an aqueous solution of prot-iodide of iron add *first* an equal volume of acetic acid, and then ten volumes of alcohol. Allow the mixture to repose two or three days. At the end of that time it will have changed colour, and the odour of acetic acid as well as that of alcohol will have disappeared, and the liquid will have acquired a peculiar but agreeable vinous odour. It is in this state that I prefer to employ it.

6. Into the iodide thus prepared and modified the plate is dipped for a few seconds. All these operations may be performed by moderate daylight, avoiding however the direct solar rays.

7. A solution is made of nitrate of silver, containing about 70 grains to one ounce of water. To three parts of this add two of acetic acid. Then if the prepared plate is rapidly dipped once or twice into this solution it acquires a very great degree of sensibility, and it ought then to be placed in the camera without much delay.

8. The plate is withdrawn from the camera, and in order to bring out the image it is dipped into a solution of protosulphate of iron, containing one part of the saturated solution diluted with two or three parts of water. The image appears very rapidly.

9. Having washed the plate with water it is now placed in a solution of hyposulphite of soda; which in about a minute causes the image to brighten up exceedingly, by removing a kind of veil which previously covered it.

10. The plate is then washed with distilled water, and the process is terminated. In order, however, to guard against future accidents, it is well to give the picture another coating of albumen or of varnish.

These operations may appear long in the description, but they are rapidly enough executed after a little practice.

In the process which I have now described, I trust that I have effected a harmonious combination of several previously ascertained and valuable facts,—especially of the photographic property of iodide of iron, which was discovered by Dr. Woods, of Parsonstown, in Ireland, and that of sulphate of iron, for which science is indebted to the researches of Mr. Robert Hunt. In the true adjustment of the proportions, and in the mode of operation, lies the difficulty of these investigations; since it is possible by adopting other proportions and manipulations not very greatly differing from the above, and which a careless reader might consider to be the same, not only to fail in obtaining the highly exalted sensibility which is desirable in this process, but actually to obtain scarcely any photographic result at all.

To return, however, from this digression.—The pictures obtained by the above-described process are negative by transmitted light and positive by reflected light. When I first remarked this, I thought it would be desirable to give these pictures a distinctive name, and I proposed that of *Amphitype*, as expressive of their double nature,—at once positive and negative. Since the time when I first observed them, the Collodion process has become known, which produces pictures having almost the same peculiarity. In a scientific classification of photographic methods, these ought therefore to be ranked together as species of the same genus. These Amphitype pictures differ from the nearly related Collodion ones in an important circumstance, viz., the great hardness of the film and the firm fixation of the image, which is such that in the last washing, No. 10, the image may be rubbed strongly with cotton and water without any injury to it; but, on the contrary, with much improvement, as this removes any particles of dust or other impurity, and gives the whole picture a fresh

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degree of vivacity and lustre. A daguerreotype picture would be destroyed by such rough usage before it was completely fixed and finished.

In examining one of the Amphitype pictures, the first thing that strikes the observer is, the much greater visibility of the positive image than of the negative one; which is at least in the proportion of *ten to one*,—since it is not rare to obtain plates which are almost invisible by transmitted light, and which yet present a brilliant picture full of details when seen by reflected light.

The object of giving to the plates a second coating of albumen, as prescribed in No. 4, is chiefly in order to obtain this well-developed positive image; for it is a most extraordinary fact, that a small change in the relative proportions of the chemical substances employed enables us at pleasure to cause the final image to be either entirely negative or almost entirely positive. In performing the experiment of the rotating wheel the latter process must be adopted; since the transmitted or negative image is not strong enough to be visible unless the electric flash producing it be an exceedingly bright one.

I now proceed to mention a peculiarity of these images which appears to me to justify still further the name of Amphitype, or, as it may be rendered in other words, "ambiguous image." Until lately I had imagined that the division of photographic images into *positive* and *negative* was a complete and rigorous one, and that all images must be of either the one or the other kind. But a third kind of image of a new and unexpected nature is observed upon the Amphitype plates. In order to render this intelligible, I will first recall the general fact that the image seen by transmitted light is negative and that by reflected light positive. Yet, nevertheless, if we vary the inclination of the plate, holding it in various lights, we shall not fail speedily to discover a position in which the image is positive although seen by transmitted light. This is already a fact greatly requiring explanation. But the most singular part of the matter is, that in this new image (which I call the *transmitted positive*), the brightest objects (viz. those that really are brightest, and which appear so in the *reflected positive*) are entirely wanting. In the places where these ought to have been seen, the picture appears pierced with holes, through which are seen the objects which are behind. Now, if this singularity occurred in all the positions in which the plate gives a positive image, I should be satisfied with the explanation that the too great brightness of the objects had destroyed the photographic effect which they had themselves at first produced. But since this effect takes place in the *transmitted positive* but not in the *reflected positive*, I am at a loss to suggest the reason of it,—and can only say that this part of optical science, dependent upon the molecular constitution of bodies, is in great need of a most careful experimental investigation.

The delicate experiment of the revolving wheel requires for its success that the iodide of iron employed should be in a peculiar or definite chemical state. This substance presents variations and anomalies in its action which greatly influence the result. Those photographers, therefore, who may repeat the experiment will do well to fix their principal attention upon this point. It is also requisite in winter to warm the plates a little before placing them in the camera. In pursuing this investigation, I have been much struck with the wide field of research in experimental optics which it throws open. By treating plates of albumened glass with different chemical solutions, the most beautiful Newtonian colours, or "colours of thin plates," may be produced. And it often happens that the landscapes and pictures obtained by the camera present lively though irregular colours. These not being in conformity with nature are at present useless; with this exception, nevertheless, that in many pictures I have found the colour of the sky to come out of a very natural azure blue. I hope soon to have the leisure requisite for pursuing this very interesting branch of inquiry, and in the mean time I venture to recommend it to the notice of your scientific readers.—I am, &c. H. F. TALBOT.

Nov. 27.

FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The Manchester papers inform us that a portrait of Mr. George Wilson —who acted with such eminent ability as permanent chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League from its formation in March 1839 to its final triumph and dissolution in July 1846—the portrait being a testimonial to that circumstance provided by subscriptien amongst the gentlemen of Manchester—has just been completed by Mr. Patten, the Associate of our London Royal Academy. At a meeting held last week to determine the destination of this work of art—which is said to be a fine one—it was resolved that the picture should be presented to the Mayor and Corporation of Manchester, with a request that it be placed in the large room of the Town Hall.

Professor Zahn, who has been engaged during a period of more than twenty years in examining the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum, has exhibited at Berlin a collection of casts unique in their kind. These are 8,000 in number; and comprise all the remarkable sculptures of the above places, besides those found at Stabiæ, and those of the vast collection of the Museo Borbonico and other museums of the Two Sicilies. The casts from the Museo Borbonico are the first ever made:—the King of Naples having accorded the privilege of taking these copies to M. Zahn alone in royal recompence for the Professor's great work on Pompeii and Herculaneum.

The *Leader* says, that "a discovery of a very interesting nature has just taken place in one of the cells of the Castle of St. Angelo, on the wall of which, towards the corner, a rough and nearly effaced indication of Christ on the Cross was brought to light a few days ago. This drawing, or painting is thought to be that which Benvenuto Cellini, in his autobiography, mentions having executed with charcoal and brickdust on the wall of his prison, when confined, hy order of Pope Paul III., in the Castle of St. Angelo, in the year 1539.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MR. H. J. LINCOLN will deliver a COURSE of LECTURES, at the Philosophical Institution, Edinburgh, on December 9, 12, 16, and 19. Subjects—'The Genius and Works of Haydn, Mozart, Spohr, and Mendelssohn.'

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.
LAST THREE NIGHTS OF M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.
M. JULLIEN'S BENEFIT.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that his BENEFIT will take place on MONDAY NEXT, December 8th (it being positively the Last Night but Two of his Concerts). The Programme will embrace all the most attractive novelties of the Season, including the talents of Signor BOTTESINI and Signor SIVORI. Miss CICELY NOTT will make her Seventh Appearance.—Commence at Eight.

GRAND BAL MASQUÉ.

M. JULLIEN'S Annual Grand Bal Masqué will take place on FRIDAY NEXT, December 12th.

N.B. All Persons having Claims on the Theatre, on account of the Concerts, are requested to deliver their Accounts immediately, and to apply on MONDAY, December 15th, at Two o'clock, for payment.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that his CONCERTS will terminate on WEDNESDAY NEXT, December 10th, and that his

ANNUAL GRAND BAL MASQUÉ

will take place on FRIDAY NEXT, December 12th, 1851, (and terminate the Season), and which, in consequence of the Theatre being Let for Dramatic Performances, will most positively be the ONLY BALL this Season.

The distinguished and increasing patronage which has been bestowed by the Nobility and Gentry on M. JULLIEN'S BALS MASQUÉS, since their first introduction in this country, may be accepted as a sure evidence of the great popularity of such Entertainments, when properly conducted and produced on the Scale of Grandeur and Magnificence which has, on each occasion, characterised them. On the present occasion, the SALLE DE DANSE will exhibit a new and tasteful Decoration, the Audience portion of the Theatre, as well as the Stage, being entirely wreathed with Artificial Flowers. A superb *coup d'œil* will, as usual, shed lustre on the scene, and be characterized by the splendid effects of the CRYSTAL CURTAIN; in short, every possible exertion has been made to secure the approbation, and to insure the amusement of M. JULLIEN'S Patrons, and he feels the greatest confidence in being enabled to present them with an Evening's Entertainment, which, as a scene of variety and dazzling brilliancy, will be pronounced unrivalled.

The ORCHESTRA will, as heretofore, be complete, and consist of One Hundred and Twelve Musicians, being the present Concert Orchestra, with numerous additions. Principal Cornet-à-Pistons, Herr Koenig. Conductor, M. JULLIEN. The new and fashionable Music of the present Season will be played, and include several New Polkas, Waltzes, Mazurkas, and Quadrilles, composed expressly for Her Majesty's State Balls at Buckingham Palace, the Nobility's Balls, Almacks, &c. by M. JULLIEN.

Tickets for the Ball, 10s. 6d.

The prices of admission for Spectators (for whom the audience portion of the Theatre will, as before, be set apart) will be as on former occasions, viz.:—Dress Circle, 5s.; Boxes, 3s.; Lower Gallery, 2s.; Upper Gallery, 1s. Private Boxes, from 2l. 2s. upwards. Persons taking Private Boxes will have the privilege of passing to and from the Ball Room, without extra charge.

Mr. L. NATHAN, Jun. of 18, Castle-street, Leicester-square, is appointed Costumier to the Ball. Persons in the Costume of Clowns, Harlequins, or Pantaloons, will not be admitted.

The Doors will be opened at Half-past Nine, the Dancing commence at Ten, and the Supper be served at One o'clock.

Tickets for the Ball, Places and Private Boxes to be had at the Box-office of the Theatre, and at the principal Music-sellers and Libraries.

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.—This ill-starred body of musical professors — although gathered with great pains and deliberation for the purpose of providing Londoners with a worshipful instrumental concert during the winter months—has melted into empty air: its members having proved themselves to be only professors, as distinguished from performers of their promises and fulfillers of obligations voluntarily contracted.—By the constitution of the defunct society all the members of the orchestra were bound to contribute their services to its performances, sharing the receipts in proportion to their several terms of professional remuneration:—a clause being introduced into the laws which, in the event of the absence of any one, enjoined him to forward due notice at the same time nominating a competent deputy. Such a clause, it is needless to peint out, was introduced in order to provide for the rare emergencies of sickness and like grave casualties; having no reference to the normal state of the land.—The laws and conditions of the *Orchestral Society* having been largely acceded to and signed by most of the leading instrumentalists in London, the Council some months ago published a list of the orchestra, with a view of inviting subscriptions,—at the same time fixing the dates of the concerts,—and more recently, as our own advertising columns have shown, they commenced operations by arranging a *programme* for the first concert, and communicating with the members selected to take part in the *solo* performances of the evening. Among other pieces advertised to be performed on that occasion, was a Septett for wind instruments. Some days after this had been promised to the public by repeated advertisements, and after the parts had been forwarded to the members necessary to its execution, the Council received notice from the first clarinet and the first bassoon that it was not their intention to appear on the first night,—it being well known by advertisement that they had taken engagements elsewhere for that evening. There were other similar desertions from the first rehearsal;—on which occasion the Council decided that being unable to keep faith with the public, by presenting not merely the *solo* performers but also the orchestra advertised,—the concert should be postponed till the case should be dealt with and the principle on which the society had been founded should once for all be established or repudiated. The orchestral members were accordingly convoked. On their meeting, it appeared that a majority of forty-seven treated the idea of fulfilling their engagements at the *Orchestral Concerts*, supposing other more immediately profitable engagements were offered to them, as a dream and a hardship. Under such circumstances, the Council of the *Orchestral Society* had hut one honourable course to pursue. This was, to decline going before the public under conditions so preposterous and humiliating, and to dissolve the society:—which step has been accordingly taken.

On events like the above, comment is almost superfluous. Nobody need sit in judgment on those who prefer immediate gain to the advancement of their art—since such preference of itself classes those that exhibit it. But that a body of musicians after having voluntarily taken upon themselves certain obligations, should at the very commencement of a new enterprise voluntarily violate them, using for pretext a law intended to strengthen, not to weaken the executive powers of the orchestra, and deliberately break faith with the public attracted by their names, speaks unfavourably for the moral tone of the profession. Such an instance is calculated to arm its adversaries with their sharpest weapons of reproach and mistrust. As lovers of the art, we record the premature—but inevitable—dissolution of the *Orchestral Society* with no ordinary concern.

MISS DOLBY'S SOIRÉES.—At Miss Dolby's second *Soirée*, she sang in her best manner Mozart's 'Mentre ti lascio,' Mr. H. Smart's too long-drawn

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'Estello,' and a song by Mr. H. Leslie. She was assisted in the vocal music by Miss Birch and her sister, and by Mr. Swift, now one of our most promising English tenors,—who sang M. Gounod's 'Venise,' referred to by us [*ante*, p. 1212], to the great delight of the audience.—The instrumental portion of this chamber-concert was strong; since, besides a Quartett of stringed instruments well led by Mr. Blagrove, Herr Molique appeared and Miss Kate Loder. The young lady is worth a remonstrance. She reads her music in the expressive and free style of a sound musician; but her execution is sometimes so careless as to betray a want of practice,—and this, whatever be its cause, means nothing less than want of due respect for her art and for her public.

Princess's.—The comedy, once thought interesting and even romantic, of 'Town and Country' has been revived for the purpose, we believe, of introducing a Miss Frankland, in the character of *Rosalie Somers*, to a London public. In a part which requires so little power, it is impossible to judge of the degree of force possessed by the candidate;—but the young lady evidently possesses qualifications for the stage,—a pleasing person, and good taste in the delivery of her text, accompanied by action easy and elegant. In a large class of parts, therefore, hovering between tragedy and comedy, Miss Frankland will doubtless be found efficient:—whether she will be equal to those of a higher range, we want further experience to enable us to determine. Mr. Charles Kean played *Reuben Glenroy* naturally; and in its more pathetic points touched the feelings with skill and effect.—To this notice we should add, that this gentleman is now sole lessee of the theatre,—Mr. Keeley having retired from the management.

Musical and Dramatic Gossip.—The death of Mr. Sapio is among the events of the week.—So long, however, is it since that accomplished and popular singer retired from public life, that his name will sound to many like the name of a stranger. For a while, Mr. Sapio as a first-class tenor singer of theatrical and concert music divided the honours with Mr. Braham. His voice was very fine,—his method was good,—and his expression, so far as we can recollect it, was refined, though generally chargeable with a touch of affectation. When we recall the variety of styles commanded by Mr. Sapio—from Sir H. R. Bishop's 'Orynthia, my beloved' to the great airs of 'The Messiah,' including also the florid Italian music of Rossini,—it is impossible to avoid by comparison regretting the limited range of our best contemporary tenor singers, and recalling those better times when expression was not thought to preclude execution, or *vice versâ*,—when a good declamatory pronunciation of Italian was felt to help, rather than to hinder, a clear and refined delivery of the text of the Bible, or of Shakspeare and Milton.—Mr. Sapio's voice gave way at an unusually early period; and it is fifteen years, or more, since he presented himself in public. It is stated that he has died in very distressed circumstances.

"The first of a series of concerts will be given at Exeter Hall," says the *Musical Times*, "on Thursday evening, December the 11th. The chief characteristic will be, the illustration of the National music of England, in songs, madrigals, and glees, by eminent *solo* singers and an efficient chorus. The National music of Germany will also be illustrated by a German choir. Arrangements are making to combine instruction with amusement for the audience by providing all with the printed music of the concerted pieces," &c.—The principal singers, since announced, are, Miss L. Pyne and Miss Dolby, Messrs. Swift, Smith and Whitehouse;—M. Szekaty is the pianist engaged, and I. Severn is to be the conductor.

It is with pleasure that we announce Mr. Ella's intention of giving six "Musical Winter Evenings" at Willis's Rooms,—to commence on Thursday the 15th of January, to be held once a fortnight, and to be devoted, we suppose, to the performance of chamber music.

Following the example of the Messrs. Broadwood,—Messrs. Collard, we observe, have been protesting against the award of the Great Exhibition medals, "*in re* Pianoforte."—The Messrs. Broadwood have presented their magnificent grand piano which stood in the nave of the Crystal Palace to the Royal Society of Musicians.

Among other untried opera composers in the field, we hear of no less redoubtable a personage than M. Jullien; who is said to have completed a work on a grand scale, which may possibly be produced at one of our musical theatres.—An opera by a young English musician, reputed to be of more than ordinary promise, Mr. Bache, may presently be given at the Haymarket Theatre.—Thirdly, rumour announces that an opera by Mr. Severn will be shortly produced at the same establishment.

M. Jullien has given his Mendelssohn night, as usual, to the promenaders. His songstress for the week has been Miss Cicely Nott;—a young lady new to the majority of concert-goers.

Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves have been singing at Birmingham in English opera, with success. The journals of that town are already speculating on the chances of some new attraction sufficiently important to maintain the high character of their Musical Festival, which comes round again in the early autumn of next year. Such a *desideratum* is more eagerly longed for than easily obtained; and for any new work it would be now too late to give a commission, supposing that any new master were forthcoming.

A Correspondent writes to us as follows.—"The French Minister of Public Instruction has caused to be deposited in the National Library of Paris an exact fac-simile of the celebrated 'Antiphonaire Musicale' of Montpellier,—a manuscript the date of which some authorities place even so far back as the tenth century. It has been made on his order by M. Theodore Nisard—and is considered as unique in the whole range of mediæval musical archæology. Though posterior to the times of Charlemagne, the manuscript resolves most questions on the origin of the Gregorian Chant; a subject with the examination of which M. Nisard has been occupied for a number of years. He has prefaced the manuscript by a *résumé* on the origin, discovery, writing, and musical notation of the Antiphonaire, and by a table of its contents. The first treatise is entitled 'Ultimum de Musica Breviarium'; being the celebrated didactic work which Reginon, Abbot of Prum, dedicated to Rathbode, Archbishop of Mainz, in the last years of the ninth century. In the time of Louis the Fourteenth the original autograph was in existence:—for which that monarch offered a considerable sum. Copies have since been found in Germany and in Belgium,—and the Montpellier manuscript is the fourth. Another circumstance adds to the importance of this treatise:—viz., its containing an interlinear alphabetic notation;—which makes this document a real 'stone of Rosetta' in relation to philology. It contains, moreover, a passage proving the use of the chromatic scale in the ninth century in the plain chant. The whole manuscript of M. Nisard forms a large folio of 500 pages:—of which the transcript of the Antiphonaire comprises 331,—the rest being notes and observations of the learned musical archæologist."

The stir of the Parisian musical season is beginning. M. Félicien David's opera 'La Perle de Brésil,' just produced at the third Opera House, was on its production received with rapture from the first to the last note. Nevertheless, so far as we can gather the truth from the several critiques of the journals, the work seems more closely to resemble an Ode-Symphony than an opera:—as such, being hardly likely to keep the stage. The leaning of M. David's critics in one direction is so unanimous as to confirm our often-expressed regret that the picturesque writer of 'The Desert' has never been commissioned to write a *ballet* with choruses for the *Grand Opéra*.—M. Philippe, a new tenor of promise, appeared in 'La Perle de Brésil.—At the first concert of the *Société de Sainte Cécile* a Symphony by Schubert was performed. It speaks ill for our Philharmonic Directors and our public that the moderate amount of enterprise implied in their once executing and hearing an unknown composition by a renowned German musician seems to be beyond their powers and patience.—Mdlle. Gräver, a young pianiste from Holland, is favourably spoken of by the *Gazette Musicale*:—so is a pianoforte trio by M. Lee.

A new Italian *danseuse*, Mdlle. Priora, has just made her appearance in a new *ballet*, 'Vert-Vert,' at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris. Her style is said to resemble that of her countrywomen, Mesdames Rosati, Ferraris, and Fuoco in its piquant brilliancy and almost metallic firmness.

A private letter from Paris announces the success at the *Théâtre Gymnase* of 'Le Mariage de Victorino,'—a new drama by Madame Dudevant, in continuation of 'Le Philosophe sans savoir,' by Sedaine.

Mr. Anderson has, we understand, been engaged by Mr. Bunn. Other engagements are in progress,—and certain arrangements are proposed regarding the intended performances;—but these are yet in a state of fluctuation, and it would be premature to announce anything positive in the shape of a managerial programme.

MISCELLANEA

Folk-Lore.—A Correspondent, who expresses the interest which he felt in the large contributions for a time made by this paper towards a collection of those popular traditions and beliefs to which we first gave the name of "Folk-Lore," has sent a few samples of popular superstitions which he wishes us to insert. We agree with him that while "some are merely pretty fancies, and others hardly that,—some have a deeper meaning for those who can read them aright." We had, however, done all that we intended to do when we had sufficiently called attention to those curious fragments of a people's manners and modes of thinking;—and we would suggest to such of our correspondents as may have material of the kind to communicate, that our curious and valuable contemporary *Notes and Queries* is a special organ expressly fitted for its reception.—Some of our present Correspondent's contributions have already appeared in our columns; but we give the following as a curious example of the tendency at all times of even the superstitious to effect a compromise between their fears and their material interests.—"A clergyman, desirous of setting up a stock of bees, applied to one of his parishioners to sell him one; but was met with a refusal on the ground that the bees did not approve of being sold, and he should lose the remainder if he were guilty of any such transaction. The honest man, however, had no objection to making a present of a stock:—hinting that a half-sovereign might follow at another time without inconvenience."—The superstitious belief of the gardener that the blossoming of an apple-tree in autumn is predictive of a death in the family which owns the tree (referred to by the same Correspondent), has a wild poetry such as characterizes many of these half-forgotten utterances of the popular heart.

Snow Phenomena.—Exeter.—It may interest some of your readers to see the following illustration of the remarkable fall of snow mentioned by Mr. Hirt in the *Athenæum* of November the 22nd. It occurs in a pamphlet on Meteorology by Prof. Dove, of Berlin,—in relation to the formation of clouds of snow over plains which are situated at a distance from the cooling summits of mountains. He says, that an amateur once gathered together a large assembly in the concert hall of a northern residence. It was one of those icy, star-bright nights which are so aptly called "iron nights" in Sweden. In the room, however, there was a fearful crowd; and the heat was so great that several ladies fainted in consequence. An officer who was present sought to end this distressing state of things by attempting to open a window,—but this was impossible, so hard was it frozen to the sill. Like a second Alexander, he cut the Gordian knot by breaking a pane of glass:—and now, what happened?—it *snowed* in the room!—It is needless to add any comment on this,—as the phenomenon explains itself.

I am, &c. W. G[illegible]

To Correspondents.—R. F.—S. S.—W. H. H.—E. P.—T. S.—A Subscriber, Y. O.—received.

Major W. S.—We have received this Correspondent's second letter,—and will do as he wishes.

A Lawyer is thanked. We will give him some further answer on a future occasion.

A. A. W.—This Correspondent also has our thanks. We shall make some use of his hints on a fitting opportunity.

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3392	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

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	Years.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
June, 1839 ..	12	5,000	321 19 6	5,908 5 0	53
" "	12	2,000	153 1 7	2,380 12 11	64
" "	12	500	34 3 0	563 0 0	58
July, 1839 .	12	900	65 1 0	1,072 10 7	67
August, 1839	12	5,000	284 6 6	5,937 1 1	45
" "	12	5,000	253 4 0	5,819 17 10	39

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Age.	Sum Insured.	Duration of Policy.	Premium paid.	Bonus.
	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30	500	6 years	74 13 0	57 10 0
..	1,000	7 years	174 [illegible] 0	[illegible] 10 0
..	1,200	8 years	[illegible] [illegible] 0	[illegible] 0 0
..	2,000	6 years	448 10 0	[illegible] [illegible] 0
..	2,500	10 years	[illegible] 10 4	313 14 0
..	3,000	11 years	[illegible] 3 0	412 16 5

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£1 16 3	£2 1 6	£2 7 8	£2 13 7	£3 [illegible] 0

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Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
*1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	[illegible] 10 0	1,0[illegible] 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	[illegible] 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

* EXAMPLE.—At the commencement of the year 1841, a person aged thirty took out a Policy for 1,000l., the annual payment for which is 24l. 1s. 8d.; in 1847 he had paid in premiums 168l. 11s. 8d.; but the profits being 2¼ per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is 22l. 10s. per annum for each 1,000l.) he had 157l. 10s. added to the Policy, almost as much as the premiums paid.

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Age.	£ s. d.	Age.	£ s. d.	Age.	£ s. d.
20	1 13 7	35	2 7 8	50	4 1 8
25	1 17 0	40	2 16 6	55	5 1 0
30	2 1 8	45	3 6 0	60	6 5 10

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The following table will show the result of the last division of profits, as declared on the 14th of May, 1851, to all persons who had on that day paid six annual premiums, being a reduction of 45 per cent. on the current annual premium. This will be found a most liberal reduction if the original premium is be compared with those of other offices adopting a similar plan of division of profits.

Age when Policy was Issued.	Date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Reduced Annual Premium for the current Year.
20	On or before 14th May, 1845.	£1,000	£19 6 8	£10 12 0
30		1,000	24 0 4	13 6 7
40		1,000	31 10 0	17 6 6
50		1,000	42 15 0	23 10 3
60		1,000	66 11 8	36 12 3

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THE QUARTERLY REVIEW.—No. CLXXIX.—ADVERTISEMENTS and BILLS for the forthcoming Number must be forwarded to the Publisher by the 22nd instant.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1851.

REVIEWS

The Golden Legend. By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Bogue.

A new poem by Prof. Longfellow is sure to be welcome. His fresh imagery, his graceefully chosen epithets, and the delicate beauty of his thoughts whatever be the mould into which he chooses to cast them, give him an unquestioned place in the Hall of the Poets. His present subject, to whatever objections it may be open as a theme, is peculiarly happy for the choice which it gives him of accessories of scenery and time, and for the variety of material which this choice places ready to his hand. Waiving the question of the propriety of a mediæval legend in a time when the heart of the world is busy with the labour of Progress which it has in hand, and when the Bard should be doing his part of the work,—we recognize Mr. Longfellow's happy treatment of the quaint and picturesque materials on which he has chosen to exercise his muse.

The action of 'The Golden Legend' is laid at some period of the thirteenth century:—Walter de Vogelweid being introduced as one of the minor characters. This was about a century before Chaucer; but we may imagine that there existed in Germany at that time a state of society not very dissimilar to that which he has described in England. The same frairs, gross, grotesque, yet old and simply in earnest in whatever they do,—the higher and more educated orders of clergy, by turns ascetic and sceptical,—the same knights, full of valour and tenderness,—the same pilgrimages, beginning in the love of holy adventure and leading to revelry and license,—the miracle-plays,—all these, and many other picturesque details were offered to Prof. Longfellow by the subject which he took:—and he has skilfully availed himself of them all. In something of the spirit of Chaucer, and of other writers of a later day—Sir Thomas Overbury and Izaak Walton, for example—he has culled the fresh and dainty thoughts which lie around a country life, homely yet fragrant. There are passages in 'The Golden Legend' as sweet and wholesome as if they were written within scent of the breath of cows on a summer's evening.

A great error of the work lies in its plot. The character of the hero is not strong enough to bear the superstructure raised upon it. This is a radical and most provoking fault, because it seems as if it might have been so easily avoided, and the feeling of disappointment which lingers in the mind after closing a book so full of beauty spared us. The hero is Prince Henry of Hohenek; who is described as a man struck down in the very prime and fulness of life by some mysterious illness, aggravated by a ban which the priests have issued against him—possessed of an active over-curious brain—and somewhat in the fearful condition of the Prince in 'The Arabian Nights,' who was half black marble,—fearfully shrinking from death, yet impatient of his dim, inactive, weary existence. Among the *dramatis personæ* we have Lucifer:—more in the spirit of Goethe's mocking fiend than the solemn, defiant, despairing Mephistopheles of Marlow;—and who is rather good-for-nothing in helping on the action of the legend, although capital as chorus, giving voice to the doubts, questionings, grotesque suggestions and half-scoffing remarks on the ways of the world to be found in many thoughtful people even now. Then, there is Elsie:—a beautiful character,—worthy to be ranked with the Joan of Arc of real life for her power of self-devotion to a high purpose,—and standing out as vivid and distinct as Margaret, or as some of Shakspeare's women, in her simplicity and intentness of gaze towards one object, and one alone.

Prince Henry, weary of life yet dreading death, and weak in character as he describes himself—

> Weakness is wretchedness! to be strong
> Is to be happy! I am weak,
> And cannot find the good I seek,
> Because I feel and fear the wrong!—

has sought the advice of all the doctors. Those of Salerno only give hope:—which is conveyed in this mysterious scroll:—

> Not to be cured, yet not incurable!
> The only remedy that remains
> Is the blood that flows from a maiden's veins,
> Who of her own free will shall die.
> And give her life as the price of yours!

—The Prince shows this writing to Lucifer, who visits him in the Castle of Vautsberg, on the Rhine, in the guise of a travelling physician; coming, as such tempters (by whatever name called) always do, right instantly on the formation of an unholy and faithless wish. Lucifer reads the scroll,—but dwells little at first on the suggestion which it contains. He rather prefers to discuss and throw discredit on the different schools of medicine. He ends by professing himself an adept; offering at the same time an Arabian drink, "Alcohol," to the Prince,—who seizes and quaffs it, in utter disregard of the warning voice of an angel hovering in the air. This first scene, without any distinct consequence in the action of the poem, strikes us as the key-note:—*i.e.* it shows the Prince's weak endurance of suffering, and impatience to snatch at any means of alleviation however unjustifiable. This impotence of will to bear and conquer bodily ills, and be at peace in his own soul, is the characteristic of the Prince throughout.

Strongly contrasted with the hero is the sweet maiden Elsie, whose pitiful regards he has attracted. She is the young daughter of the couple who have afforded him shelter in their home in the forest when cast out by all at the priests' behest. She is a true and exquisite throughout,—both child-like and wise; and the greatest skill is shown in the touches which indicate her deep and tender holiness. Brought up amid the solemnities of the whispering forest, and hearing legends of holy virgin-martyrs for her sole recreation in a life filled with humble duties meekly performed, it is right and consistent that she should first compassionate the "poor Prince" who feels his doom so acutely, and then, on hearing what may release him from it, offer up herself to die in his stead with that readiness of self-sacrifice which springs from an innocent heart full of ardent love and desirous of action.

She comes to the bed-side of her parents; and announces her purpose as a holy duty given her to perform; and when they ask her if she knows what death is, she replies:—

> 'Tis the cessation of our breath.
> Silent and motionless we lie;
> And no one knoweth more than this.
> I saw our little Gertrude die;
> She left off breathing, and no more
> I smoothed the pillow beneath her head.
> She was more beautiful than before.
> Like violets faded were her eyes;
> By this we knew that she was dead.
> Through the open window looked the skies
> Into the chamber where she lay,
> And the wind was like the sound of wings,
> As if angels came to bear her away.
> Ah! when I saw and felt these things,
> I found it difficult to sleep
> I longed to die, as she had died,
> And go forth with her, side by side.
> The Saints are dead, the Martyrs dead,
> And Mary, and Our Lord; and I
> Would follow in humility
> The way by them illumined!

Elsie speaks so solemnly and yet so simply, that her parents believe her voice to be as the voice of God;—and submit to what it decreed. The Prince has listened to this proposal of Elsie's in so selfish a spirit and with so slender a resistance, that we wonder why Lucifer, in the semblance of a priest at the Confessional, is needed to confirm him in his inclination to consent that the maiden shall go to Salerno, and die in his place.

A succession of scenes occur to carry us between the Odenwald and Salerno. In Strasburg Prince Henry, Elsie and his sister (including the invisible Lucifer) meet Walter von der Vogelweid, and hear a sermon preached by a mendicant friar in the true irreverent spirit of the times; and afterwards they witness the performance of a miracle play, which forms an episode of some five-and-twenty pages. The character of the age is well preserved throughout this scene:—which is made precious by a little touch of womanly nature in Elsie. She shrinks in affright from the crowd assembled to hear the friar's sermon, even on her way to her self-chosen doom of death. This incident reminds us of the "few tears" which Joan of Arc shed putting her hand up to her breast which the arrow had wounded. Some peculiar rhymed lines of an unusual length (they might be called octameters) pleasantly mark the journey to Hirschau; and again there occur some little dramatic scenes in the convent there in which the variety of characters, motives and ends, is well and delicately indicated. If the Golden Legend were a pure drama, we must object to the introduction of so much that not only does not contribute to the action of the piece, but even tends to distract the reader's attention from its subject. As it is, we receive all, and are thankful that so much of it is beautiful. It is rather a comfort, however, to find that Lucifer has not a complete sinecure of his place in the legend,—but does a little temptation, in the way of business, among the monks. To them he pretends that he is a member of the distant convent of St. Gildas de Rhuys in Brittany:—the habits of which he thus describes.—

> You must know, then, it is in the diocese
> Called the Diocese of Vannes,
> In the province of Brittany,
> From the grey rocks of Morbihan
> It overlooks the angry sea;
> The very sea-shore where,
> In his great despair,
> Abbot Abelard walked to and fro,
> Filling the night with his woe,
> And wailing aloud to the merciless seas
> The name of his sweet Heloise!
> Whilst overhead
> The convent windows gleamed as red
> As the fiery eyes of the monks within,
> Who with jovial din
> Gave themselves up to all kinds of sin!
> Ha! that is a convent! that is an abbey!
> Over the doors
> None of your death-heads carved in wood,
> None of your saints looking pious and good,
> None of your Patriarchs old and shabby!
> But the heads and tasks of hours
> And the cells
> Hung all round with the bells
> Of the fallow-deer.
> And then, what cheer!
> What jolly, fat friars,
> Sitting round the great roaring fires,
> Roaring louder than they,
> With their strong wines,
> And their concubines
> And never a bell,
> With its swagger and swell,
> Calling you up with a start of affright
> In the dead of night,
> To send you grumbling down dark stairs,
> To mumble your prayers.
> But the cheery crew
> Of cooks in the yard below,
> After day-break an hour or so,
> And the barking of deep-mouthed hounds,
> These are the sounds
> That, instead of bells, salute the ear.
> And then all day
> Up and away
> Through the forest, hunting the deer!

In the next scene, laid on the covered bridge of Lucerne, on which is depicted one of the famous old Dances of Death,—the purpose is, to bring out the difference in the characters of Prince Henry and of Elsie:—he, fearing death, yet

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entering into the jesting mocking spirit of the *Danse Macabre*,—she, willingly and serenely going to die, yet turning away pained from the satire of the paintings, as something irreverent in the treatment of so solemn a subject.—They proceed over the St. Gothard Pass down into the plains of Italy; and there encounter a merry riotous band of pilgrims to some holy shrine. Lucifer is especially delighted with "the mummery and merriment;" and, like a practical fellow as he is, sees to the heart of the affair at once. Genoa and the sea bring us to the School of Salerno,—where Elsie is to lay down her life for the bodily restoration of the Prince. But meanwhile we are introduced to scholars and doctors (angelical and seraphical) disputing on the usual questions of that day. Into the midst of the discussion come Prince Henry and Elsie. He inquires for Friar Angelo,—the forecaster of the oracle:—and Lucifer personates the Friar. But, now, at last, Prince Henry relents,—and determines, in a faint weak kind of way, that he, not Elsie, shall die. She continues steady and true to her purpose,—and is led away by Lucifer. The Prince upbraids himself first; then struggles after her,—but in vain. Voices from within reply, "It is too late."

We know not if there be really any mediæval legend on which this poem is founded,—but we greatly doubt it. Old legends are pitiful in their details, but unrelenting in their plots. Their martyrs endure to the full end—whatever may be the supernatural reward which is to more than recompense them for their sufferings. There is not one tittle of the catastrophe bated. But Prof. Longfellow has felt apparently that the Prince was not worthy of Elsie's sacrifice,—and he has shrunk back from her death, after it was seemingly inevitable, into a joyful marriage, which takes the reader as well as the poor old grieving parents of Elsie (the pretty simple peasant-like identity of which latter is finally lost in the "Lady Alicia") by surprise. The consequence is, that the poem—beautiful and true in most of its details, in all its descriptions, and in many of its characters—is yet a failure as a work of Art; and though more varied and rich in its workmanship, falls short of the perfection of 'Evangeline' as a whole conception. There has been no great struggle going on in the Prince's mind all through the journey. Lucifer has well characterized him as—

—— already mine!
Let him live to corrupt his race,
Breathing among them, with every breath,
Weakness, selfishness, and the base
And pusillanimous fear of death.
I know his nature, and I know
That of all who in my ministry
Wander the great earth to and fro,
And on my errands come and go,
The safest and subtlest are such as he.

To his intimate friend, and in his soliloquies, he has never relented; and not until the last moment does the idea cross his mind that he will not allow another to suffer in his stead. Even then he wavers, instead of resolving that he will rise up in his struggle and defy either death or life to conquer him. The substitution of marriage for death is like a trick of legerdemain. We do not see the process of the substitution,—nor is it ever explained. It would have been better, if we look on the story of this poem as anything more than a thread to string pearls on, if the author had allowed Elsie to complete her purpose, and die for the weak and selfish Prince; who, thereupon, in the strong agony of his remorse, should work out his nobility,—all his good deeds henceforward to be laid down as nothing at the feet of her memory. There seems to be a lingering reminiscence of the Alcestis of Euripides running through this legend,—and the same feeling of mean selfishness is common to both Prince Henry and Admetus; but any one acquainted with the old Greek idea of life, as of a scene of glorious physical enjoyment, while death was by them regarded as a gloom athwart which wandered only plaining ghosts, will find that almost excusable in a King of Thessaly which is contemptible in a Christian Knight.

We repeat, that 'The Golden Legend' is full of beauties, nevertheless. There is a relief of the humorous throughout, for which we have to thank Lucifer. We do so very heartily:—especially as he does not perplex us with any wild, dark, tempting and forbidden thoughts, as so many of his prototypes have done,—but all along commits rather a blunder than a crime (and we are not of Talleyrand's opinion, who preferred the latter) in troubling himself so much about Prince Henry. The Prince would have done little credit to his skill as a prize if he had gained him,—and he slips through the false prophecy very easily after all.

All the glimpses that we get of the household, of whom Elsie forms one, are very beautiful;—simple, homely, pious, and full of love. Here is the description of Prince Henry's deserted Castle of Hoheneck.—

How sad the grand old castle looks!
O'erhead, the unmolested rooks
Upon the turret's windy top
Sit, talking of the farmer's crop;
Here in the court-yard springs the grass,
So few are now the feet that pass;
The stately peacocks, bolder grown,
Come hopping down the steps of stone,
As if the castle were their own;
And I, the poor old seneschal,
Haunt, like a ghost, the banquet-hall.
Alas! the merry guests no more
Crowd through the hospitable door;
No eyes with youth and passion shine,
No cheeks grow redder than the wine;
No song, no laugh, no jovial din
Of drinking wassail to the pin;
But all is silent, sad, and drear,
And now the only sounds I hear
Are the hoarse rooks upon the walls,
And horses stamping in their stalls.

The readers of Prof. Longfellow's 'Voices of the Night' will remember the verses entitled 'The Light of Stars.' Hear what the Poet once more says of his ruling planet. It is out of the Miracle Play.—

Uriel. I am the minister of Mars,
The strongest star among the stars.
My songs of power prelude
The march and battle of man's life,
And for the suffering and the strife,
I give him Fortitude!

We quote again out of the Miracle Play.—Judas, a clever imp of a child, is repeating his lesson. This is fine:—

Rabbi. And now, my Judas, say to me
What the great Voices Four may be,
That quite across the world do flee,
And are not heard by men?

Judas. The Voice of the Sun in heaven's dome,
The Voice of the Murmuring of Rome,
The Voice of a Soul that goeth home,
And the Angel of the Rain!

The following is a fine simile to picture the calming touch of a ripe old age:—

Time has laid his hand
Upon my heart, gently, not smiting it,
But as a harper lays his open palm
Upon his harp, to deaden its vibrations.

The fickle and irregular measures in which some of the extracts that we have given are couched makes them show to disadvantage in their detached and fragmentary form. Our readers should go to the volume itself to familiarize his ear with its shifting rhythms, and then assure himself of the many rich poetical expressions that we have been able only to indicate.

Ancient and Modern India. By the late W. Cooke Taylor, L.L.D. Revised and continued to the Present Time by P. J. Mackenna, Esq. Second Edition. Madden.

Dr. Cooke Taylor's epitome of the 'History of India,' like nearly all the other abridgments of that able man, was well executed, and has been found admirably adapted to the purposes which it was intended to answer. Mr. Mackenna—a gentleman who describes himself as having resided many years in India, and as having bestowed a "continued study" on Eastern subjects—has undertaken to revise, extend, and improve Dr. Taylor's text, and to bring down the narrative to the present time. Speaking generally, Mr. Mackenna has performed his task successfully. Here and there we have observed paragraphs and expressions which lead us to infer that he is perhaps new to the kind of employment which he has taken in hand. But it cannot be said that the work is at all disfigured by obtrusive eccentricities. In a compact and moderate compass Dr. Taylor and his editor have presented a faithful and clear outline of the rise and progress of our power in Asia; and a generation is rising up and a time is near at hand when truthful histories like the present, neither oppressive from their bulk nor deceptive in their tone, will be sought eagerly as describing the condition of a country of which Englishmen begin to feel that they have been too neglectful.

It is a very common thing to hear on all sides lamentations and forebodings in connexion with the present state of British India. In one quarter the complaint is, that our territory is too wide,—in another, that it is too distant,—in a third, that the climate is quite unbearable by Europeans,—and in a fourth, that India is too poor a country to bear for any long period the expenses of its present defence. All these complaints have some foundation in fact, more or less solid; but, on the other side there are new and countervailing circumstances, which by a curious perverseness are seldom adverted to. In the first place, India is from us only one-sixth of the distance, reckoned in time, which it was from the contemporaries of Clive and Hastings. In that single fact a revolution of the most momentous kind is expressed. In the next place, the English communities in Bengal and the Deccan, instead of being almost the only Saxon groups in the Eastern hemisphere, have become links in a chain of Saxon colonies stretching from the Cape of Good Hope to New Zealand in the one direction and to the free ports of China in the other. India is now outflanked, as it were, by the English settlements in South Africa and in Australia: and probably at some period not very distant the Hindoos and Mussulmans of India may learn to transfer their allegiance from an island on the western side of Europe, to another island—New Zealand—lying still farther eastward than their own country. These are remote speculations, however; but in the mean time nothing can be more certain than that the English colonies in Australia and the commerce with those colonies have given to England a firmer hold on India than she ever had before. Already valetudinarians from Bengal and Madras seek in the bracing air of Auckland and of Sydney the renovated health that they have hitherto sought at Cheltenham and at Bath. Cape Town has become a sanatorium station for Bombay; and no small part of the cavalry of the East India Company are mounted on sturdy long-tailed horses originally depastured in New South Wales. But, more important still,—the fleet of seven or eight hundred ships which annually sail to Australia with emigrants find it profitable to come home through the Indian seas, and to call at Calcutta for a return cargo. Cost of conveyance has long been a greater bar to the developement of Indian commerce than cost of production. These emigrant vessels therefore help in a most powerful manner to remove this difficulty; and because it has been removed in that manner,

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we have seen during late years the sugars of Benares and Tirboot competing vigorously in our own markets with the produce of the West India plantations, notwithstanding that Jamaica is only half as distant as the Valley of the Ganges.

But, still further,—India is intolerable to Europeans only because access to the cooler regions in the country is as nearly as may be impossible. A railway from Calcutta to Simlah, with daily trains from each end performing the journey in thirty-six hours, would render the capital on the Hooghly as supportable as Cape Town. With such means of transport in full vigour, the English residents in India would cease to be an encampment, and would become colonists.

The cost of Indian armies and Indian government is one half attributable to the same evil of want of rapid means of transit. The wealth of a province is always in process of waste at Benares, at Delhi, and at other leading depôts, because it is needful at those places to have at all times an accumulation of munitions and stores equal to the consumption of months and to the supply of a large circumjacent district.

We have here expressed very briefly some of the reasons which render it exceedingly improbable that our Eastern empire can be wrenched from us except by a convulsion such as in recent times has not been heard of.

We must not omit to say that great pains have been taken with the mechanical details of the book before us. The pages and chapters are arranged with great care,—running notes are given in the margin,—and a copious index renders the contents of the volume accessible in the easiest manner.

The Life of the Honourable Henry Cavendish, including Abstracts of his more important Scientific Papers, &c. By George Wilson, M.D. Printed for the Cavendish Society.

The life of a philosopher is seldom of much interest; and the life in particular of a retiring experimentalist like Henry Cavendish has but few points on which a biographer can enlarge. As marking, in a peculiar way, a phase in the progress of Chemistry, it was important that a Memoir of Cavendish should be added to the meagre list of the biographies of men of science. The Cavendish Society have very properly added this to the series of works published by them,—and they could not have confided the task to a more competent writer than Dr. George Wilson.

Cavendish was in many respects a remarkable man. Born to wealth, he devoted himself to chemical studies. With strange peculiarities of person and singular shyness of disposition, we find in him every evidence of a philosophic mind. He had no desire to associate with man,—indeed, it would appear that he felt himself at a disadvantage in mixed society; he therefore retired to the sanctuary of his own workshops and laboratory,—and there communed with Nature—and with earnest industry sought to elicit by experiment those scientific truths by which man is advanced in the scale of intelligence.

The Hon. Henry Cavendish was the son of Lord Charles and Lady Anne Cavendish. He was born on the 10th of October, 1731, at Nice; whither his mother had gone for the sake of her health, which continued delicate until her death, two years after this event. Cavendish received his rudimentary education at the school of Dr. Newcome, at Hackney,—and from thence he proceeded to Cambridge, where he matriculated in the first rank, on the 18th of December, 1749. He appears to have remained at Cambridge until 1753, but he did not graduate. From this period until he appeared in the scientific world, some thirty years afterwards, but little is known of his progress. Until the death of his father, in 1783, the means of the philosopher were restricted,—he being allowed an annuity of 500*l.* only;—but at that time he became possessed of a considerable fortune, which was afterwards very largely increased on the death of an aunt.

In 1764, Cavendish appears to have commenced his career as a discoverer in Physical Science. His first contributions to science were experiments on Arsenic, on Heat, and on the Congelation of Quicksilver. His earliest publication, in the *Transactions of the Royal Society*, was papers 'On Factitious Airs,'—and it is clearly proved by these that he was the independent discoverer of Nitrogen Gas. The investigations established by him with a view of determining the principal conditions of electrical phenomena led to the clearest deductions,—and we find him in 1776 publishing his interesting account of 'Attempts to imitate the effects of the Torpedo.' Although Voltaic Electricity was not discovered till some quarter of a century after the publication of this paper,—Frictional and Atmospheric Electricity being alone known at this time—and even these imperfectly,—"we cannot but admire the sagacity with which Cavendish found in the very perplexities of Animal Electricity the means of explaining it, and rose at once to the recognition of a law so wide in its bearing, that whilst it interpreted the difficulties of the existing science, it also furnished a key to the problems which were to vex the students of the Voltaic, Thermic and Magnetic Electricity of a later century."

In Cavendish's experiments on Heat we discover the same grasp of mind. From his careful experiments he was enabled to advance to extensive generalities; and advancing by a series of ingenious inductions—guided, however, by his desire to investigate the phenomena of Phlogiston,—he was led to the discovery of the composition of Atmospheric Air. On the subject of Phlogiston Dr. Wilson has some very satisfactory remarks.—

"Stahl's theory of Phlogiston was not a refined speculation. It scarcely deserves to be called a scientific hypothesis. It really amounted to nothing more than the assertion that a body was combustible because it contained something combustible;—which was equivalent to the identical proposition that a body burned because it burned. This declaration, instead of being a refinement of Philosophy to which only a man of science could reach, was but the reduction to terms of a vulgar belief. It was a poetical rather than a scientific thought; for the natural tendency of every untrained imaginative mind, as we see in children, and in the early history of all nations, is to impute every manifestation of power to the presence, in the body manifesting it, of some inner principle more or less sustaining, and resembling a living or vital agent. The same spirit by which the Greeks people the winds and the waves, the rivers and the trees, with gods,—which makes the savage regard the compass-needle as animated,—and the child demand to see in some visible shape the motive principle of a watch or a moving toy, led the chemists of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries to declare that a candle burned because it contained a burning principle. I have sometimes thought that this theory was in part occasioned by the spectacle of the sun and other heavenly bodies unceasingly emitting heat and light. I have found, however, no reference to this striking phenomenon in the writings of the phlogistians; and however much the unbroken radiance of the sun might justify a popular belief in the power of combustibles simply to emit light, it could never justify the assertion of this even as a probable truth, for this would have been to explain one mystery by another. It seems to me, on the whole, that whilst Poetry might have welcomed the doctrine that a blazing body throws off light and heat, as a bell utters a sound, or a flower exhales an odour, Science can only accept it as an hypothesis of no great likelihood or high value, and which at all events required at once to be tested, as to its utility as an interpreter of known phenomena, and a guide to the discovery of new ones."

We do not, however, think, with Dr. Wilson, that the true poet would be disposed to receive as a truth an hypothesis simply because it admits of a certain prettiness of expression. In relation to natural phenomena, it must never be forgotten that Poetry takes up the theme there where Philosophy reaches the culminating point of truth, and exalts it further by investing it with the deep music of impassioned thought.

As might have been expected, a large portion of this volume is devoted to the *Water question:*—not that which is now exciting public attention as to the best sources from which to obtain the most abundant and the best supply of this healthful pabulum,—but that which concerns the chemical composition of this fluid.—We have already [*Athen.* No. 1004, p. 87], when examining Mr. Muirhead's 'Correspondence of Watt,' fully expressed our opinions on this head. We believe Watt and Cavendish to have been equally discoverers of the composition of water. One advanced by the deductions of a satisfactory theory to the truth, and the other by experimental examination proceeded onward to the proof of the fact; and Watt was as ignorant of the labours of Cavendish, and Cavendish as uninformed of the views of Watt, as were Adams and Le Verrier of those important investigations by each other, which simultaneously proved the correctness of the Newtonian law of gravitation, and led to the discovery of the remote planet Neptune.

With two or three anecdotes of Cavendish we must conclude our notice.—

"J. G. Children, Esq. was often in the company of Cavendish, and thus refers to his interview with him. 'I am now the father of the Royal Society Club. I remember Cavendish well, and have often dined at the Crown and Anchor with him. When I first became a member of the Club, I recollect seeing Cavendish on one occasion talking very earnestly to Marsden, Davy, and Hatchett. I went up and joined the group, my eye caught that of Cavendish, and he instantly became silent: he did not say a word. The fact is, he saw in me a strange face, and of a strange face he had a perfect horror. * * He was thus to appearance a misanthrope, and still more a misogynist. He was reported among his contemporaries, indeed, to have a positive dislike of women. Lord Burlington informs me, on the authority of Mr. Allnutt, an old inhabitant of Clapham, 'that Cavendish would never see a female servant; and if an *unfortunate maid ever showed herself, she was immediately dismissed.*' Lord Brougham tells us that Cavendish 'ordered his dinner daily by a note, which he left at a certain hour on the hall table, where the housekeeper was to take it, for he held no communication with his female domestics from his morbid shyness.'"

The following is equally characteristic.—

"One evening we observed a very pretty girl looking out from an upper window on the opposite side of the street, watching the philosophers at dinner. She attracted notice, and one by one we got up and mustered round the window to admire the fair one. Cavendish, who thought we were looking at the moon, bustled up to us in his odd way, and when he saw the real object of our study, turned away with intense disgust, and grunted out 'Pshaw!'"

Such was the extraordinary man and sagacious philosopher of whom Dr. George Wilson has so ably written the Life; and of whom he justly says, "He did not love—he did not hate—he did not hope—he did not fear—he did not worship as others do." He lived and died an almost passionless man. He communed with Nature, and elicited many of her hidden truths. "His brain seems to have been a calculating engine; his eyes inlets of vision not fountains of tears; his hands instruments of manipulation

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which never trembled with emotion, or were clasped together in adoration, thanksgiving, or despair; his heart only an anatomical organ necessary for the circulation of the blood."

NEW NOVELS.

Spiritual Alchemy; or, Trials turned to Gold. By the Author of 'Hearts in Mortmain,' &c. 2 vols. Bentley.

Those who anticipated that the author of 'Hearts in Mortmain' and 'Cornelia' would prove a valuable addition to that class of writers of fiction whose forte lies in "subjective" rather than in "objective" description are doomed to have their hopes disappointed by her present work. We are in no doubt as to the gender of the author,—because we feel certain that the person who would call a horse "a pleasure-giving thing," and talk so fluently of "imaginings" and "questionings," must belong to the softer sex. We could indite a homily on the folly exhibited by many an author of a moderately successful novel who hurries forward a second on the reputation of the first; forgetting that to only a few in each generation have the powers been given which entitle them to be likened to a fountain rather than to a cistern,—and that it would be far better for the majority of novel writers to wait until the experience of life has re-filled their minds with something worth communicating to the world.

The writer before us has forgotten 'Punch's Advice to M.P.'s,'—"If you have nothing to say, say it." The result is, a vaguely-written book, full of verbiage and commonplace exhortations to morality. The plot wants clearness as to its beginning, middle and end; and this want is further increased by the very inartistic habit of describing episodical scenes that have occurred in some distant time or place just as fully and dramatically as the events which are presently contributing to the progress of the story in hand. The effect produced reminds us of the old willow-pattern plates, where the man in the boat away at sea is just as large and prominent as the three men on the bridge close at hand. Once again, let us send a writer of this class to study the admirable keeping in Miss Austen's novels. In 'Persuasion,' for instance, how ably is the perspective managed! We have slight suggestive hints of the scenes which took place between *Captain Wentworth* and *Anne Elliott* years before,—just enough to make us unconsciously picture the whole of their intercourse; but Miss Austen would never have thought it necessary to describe a scene that had occurred twenty years before, and in another country, in order to justify the choice of an unusual name!

In 'Spiritual Alchemy' the plot turns on the fickleness of a lover who being twice refused by one woman, becomes—or fancies that he becomes—attached to another,—but, shortly after he has been accepted by the last, turns back to the old love. If we give two lovers to each of the young ladies, so as to involve the action, we have the whole of the story:—which is not very new, as the reader will perceive. It is not, however, at this time of day that we expect much novelty in the construction of fictions:—what we have a right to look for is, a simple, easy, yet truthful and unexaggerated treatment of the subject chosen. This simplicity and truth do not drop out of the skies for the picking up. They are the result of much conscientious observation of life,—and of a severe training in the art of describing correctly what is correctly observed. The characters should manifest themselves in speech and in action; instead of being the subjects of description with some such prefatory remark as—"we do not draw perfect characters; are there any such on earth?"—or, "will you say that this is unnatural?" These things disturb us when we are trying to believe in the reality of the story. When the time comes—when seasons of passion or of endurance, in which the characters or events are wrought up to their fullest developement, arrive—there should be no shrinking from giving full unexaggerated life-like details,—no escaping into vague and misty words, which do not cut sharp, and present no definite idea. For instance, when the author desires to afford us some idea of the weak and guilty Baldwin,—how can we apprehend his condition of mind from such a passage as the following?—

"Sin—sin, with its hideous visage stared him in the face, and said, 'you have chosen me, and I go with you!' And he knew, and it was a terrible conviction, that he was bound, soul and body, to that dark shape, and that he had no power to break the bonds and to fly. Wherever he went, there it stood with him. At night, when he sought the glitter and amusement of the theatres, under the mocking gaudy veil he saw those dreadful features turned to him; from his bed he saw, he felt the shadow of those kark hovering wings."

It is a mistake to suppose that readers can be worked up into sympathy with the enthusiasm expressed respecting the literary works of a character in a story whose conversation and conduct is not more marked by intellectual power than is that of Charles Carew. We marvel at Passiflora's admiration for the unknown author of a poem the quotations from which are elegantly weak at the very best that can be said of them. Let us add, that the cause of religion and morality will be better served by faithfully depicting, to their homeliest details, the sorrowful consequences inevitably resulting from wrong-doing than by personifying "Death," "Foul Injustice," "Spirits sacred and beloved," and many other vices and virtues, and addressing them in the vocative case.

Clara Harrington; a Domestic Tale. 3 vols. Colburn.

There is good matter in this novel. Though we have rarely read a tale of modern life and trial of which the argument is more open to question, and of which the morality is more eccentric and overstrained,—the author's purpose is evidently no mean one; while in the working of it out, more thought, more poetical fancy, and more originality are shown than are habitually to be met with in works of its class. The view of woman's dignity and of woman's love here propounded will afflict many, and repel a few: to ourselves it is objectionable because it is totally unreal. Our author, who we suspect has kept artists' company, will admit that it would be impossible to make a 'Massacre of the Innocents' acceptable in which the bereaved mother in the foreground should be seen weeping a saintly forgiveness of *King Herod*. Such a she-seraph in mortal form there may have been,—but in a picture on the subject her introduction would amount to a monstrosity. Yet, little less exceptional is the position, little less celestial the mood, of Clara Harrington. After having for some time considered herself the lawful wife of a mysterious man and their child as legitimate, she learns that his professions and her position have been alike an imposture,—that there is no Mr. Merton—but in his place a Lord Ashford—and a living Lady Ashford who has no idea of the so-called Mrs. Merton's relations with her husband. The explosion of this terrible truth is well managed by the author; though Clara's friends Leonora and the Doctor, who appear like *Chorus*, and seem to have few duties in life save to minister to her, act on the occasion with an alternate toleration and indignation which are very strange. The former absolutely permits them to acquiesce in the heroine's decision of accepting a false name, and a separate maintenance from her betrayer, simultaneously with a total cessation of intercourse,—not in the coarse light of a reparation for the wreck which he has caused, but from her sublime idea of thus testifying a love stronger than all circumstances, and a hope of purifying and elevating herself the victim and him the offender!—Compared with such a sentimental arrangement as this, that of the two wives of the Count of *Gleichen* in the well-known Crusade legend is simple, explicable and natural.—But Lord Ashford's domestic provisions are little more probable than the above. My Lady and himself live on terms of the coldest civility,—the former learning only late in the day that my Lord had from the first been in more than heart unfaithful to her. With them are domesticated Mrs. Dalton, my Lady's sister, who hates my Lord actively—and Mrs. Grey, my Lord's sister, who has been brought into the family expressly to educate my Lord and my Lady's daughter. Mrs. Grey has a grown-up daughter of her own, who makes one of this well assorted circle. Eleanor Grey, a silly specimen of the strong-minded damsel, receives her own acquaintances, orders her own carriage, comes in and goes out without reckoning with either my Lord, my Lady, or her parent,—express conditions for all such rational indulgences having been made by her mother, who is a pattern of sense and virtue, overbrimming with duty and feeling compounded in the most perfectly balanced proportions! Throughout the whole series of adventures of these people, which (the requisite *data* once being granted) are ingeniously constructed, they are described as in something like a perpetual state of tender commiseration for Lord Ashford, whose sentimental selfishness costs only three lives!—Now, possessing some disposition, it may be hoped, to melt, and more to allow for the melting of others on behalf of the "victims of society,"—with no inclination, we are sure, to enforce the "eye for eye and tooth for tooth" code of rewards and punishments,—we maintain that a much looser interpretation of right and wrong than this is hardly to be found in the most loving and large-minded of German novels,—where everybody is in love with precisely that other body who is placed beyond his or her virtuous reach by Church and Law—where everybody yields to everybody—and where everybody pities everybody for loving, yielding, and withal managing to make nobody happy!

Our reason for analyzing the invention of 'Clara Harrington' has been given. Its writer, we repeat, possesses thought, fancy, and originality in no common degree:—and though too much given to preach in dialogue and to refine in description, manages both colloquy and what our neighbours call *mise en scène* not badly. If this be a first book there is power and passion enough where it came from to make an excellent second one; provided only, that somewhat more of grave sense and of rigid truth to good and evil be employed in designing the plot and colouring the characters.

The Pirate of the Mediterranean. A Tale of the Sea. By William H. Kingston, Esq. 3 vols. Newby.

A more thorough contrast to the above tale could by no legerdemain be found than this romance on the Cooper pattern;—in which the principal actors are characters as necessary to the fictitious annals of piracy as *Columbine*, *Harlequin*, *Pantaloon*, and *Clown* are to a Christmas Pantomime.—Zappa, the Pirate, with his stronghold among the rocks of a Greek island—Nina his neglected wife, who manages

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to bind up the heart-wounds caused by his neglect, with well-worn love and patience of home-manufacture—Ada Garden, the English heroine whose abduction, adventures, and we may as well say deliverance, (since no one could count seriously on her becoming Madame Zappa the second) are the theme of the novel—Vlacco, the savage sea-robber, with his fixed idea of pitching all inquisitive guests and inconvanient charges into the ocean—are, to state the case handsomely, old acquaintances. Having announced them, we have announced to every well-conditioned novel reader on what manner of cruise he is bound when he puts from shore in their company. Still, the remark made a week ago on Mr. Kingston's child's book applies also to his story for the affright and delight of grown children. The "reverential fear" and the breathless charm of the "old sea" are not exhausted. We own ourselves to have been held in thrall by the escapes and pursuits of these familiar people almost as firmly as if we had never before made their acquaintance,—as if we had not some twenty times seen out of what squalls and scrapes they could issue safe and sound,—as if we could not name, as fast as they appeared, which among them was to be winner and which loser,—which to die of a broken heart,—which to walk in step to the joy-bells of matrimony. Thus, among well established Christmas mummers, Mr. Kingston's 'Pirate' may claim his place at the fire-side corner as boldly as bonny *St. George* or *Sabrina* the fair. Before Easter, possibly, he may be thrust off the stage by some newer "Buccaneer of Borneo," or some older "Sea King of the Baltic!"

Memoirs illustrative of the History and Antiquities of Wiltshire and the City of Salisbury.—Diary of a Dean: being an Account of the Examination of Silbury Hill, &c. By the late John Merewether, D.D., Dean of Hereford. Bell.

We have coupled these works together, because, in fact, the last is part of the first,—only separately bound and with a separate title-page. The examination of Silbury Hill by certain members of the Archæological Institute was mainly conducted under the superintendence of the late Dean of Hereford:—who will be long remembered as an ardent and sincere friend of pursuits connected with antiquities.

It seems, that Dr. Merewether's portion of what the Archæological Institute calls its "Salisbury Volume" has been divided from the other papers and bound by itself at his own wish, expressed before his death; but it is a mistake in the publisher to tell the reader that it has been "reprinted." It has been taken bodily from the "Salisbury Volume," with the same types and without the most minute variation; all that is new being the title-page (which, in its alliterative form, is hardly worthy of the man or of the subject.) and the publisher's "advertisement." Neither do we see what advantage is gained by this "re-issue"; for, notwithstanding any wish intimated by the author, it appears to us that his work would have been quite as usefully, if not quite as extensively circulated, if it had remained only part of a volume put forth under the authority of the Council of the Institute. As the matter stands, it may seem to cast some trifling slur on the Institute; as if their volumes were so little known and read, that it was necessary for the various contributors to look after their own reputations by taking care that their papers, especially if of any length, should be separately published. Dean Merewether was not at all likely himself to intend any such inference; but it is encouraged in some degree by the terms of the preliminary address from the publisher.

We cannot but applaud the zeal and activity of the Dean and of his coadjutors in the examination of Silbury Hill. The result, however, has not added a single fact to our previous information. It has been known at least since the days of Stukeley that the singular mound near Beckhampton contained nothing,—for the Duke of Northumberland, about seventy years ago, sank a shaft from the top to the bottom of it; and why the members of the Institute should fancy that at such a place they should discover a store of archæological remains we cannot well understand. The truth is, that it never was a burial-place either with the Celts, the Romans, or the Anglo-Saxons; and hence the conjectures (not now one whit advanced) as to its origin and purpose. The money spent in recent explorations we look on as wasted; and we are glad that it was contributed by private individuals, not deducted from the funds of the Institute. Nevertheless, the volume which stands first at the head of our article contains not merely Dean Merewether's daily details of his own proceedings, but an article by Mr. Tucker, the Secretary of the Institute, on the very same subject, repeating many of the same particulars, with the very same quotations. All this, we must take leave to say, occupies space that might have been better employed,—and so far has put the Institute to an expense that might have been avoided. As no knowledge has been gained, and as none was to have been reasonably expected from a re-examination of Silbury Hill, we should have thought that the better way would have been for the Institute to have passed over the matter as slightly as possible, and to have left the Dean of Hereford, if he judged it expedient, to print and publish his own account of his proceedings.

What we have said about Silbury Hill will apply with quite as much force to Stonehenge. We have two papers on this stupendous monument, which is equally ancient and unintelligible. Speculation has been exhausted regarding it,—and we cannot congratulate the Rev. Mr. Duke or Mr. Matcham on having made any valuable discoveries. The notion of Inigo Jones that it was a Roman fane has long been exploded; but we cannot bring ourselves to the opinion, in spite of the arguments of the two respectable gentlemen above named, that it was intended for a stone almanac, and that those enormous masses were placed by the Druids merely for the purpose of noting the days of the month or the weeks of the year. We do not dispute the ingenuity of the arguments; but we deny their utility, as far as any practical result is concerned.

Before we lose sight of the Dean of Hereford's contributions, we are anxious to do justice to what he did, and has said, respecting certain of the barrows of Wiltshire. The discoveries which he made of their contents is not only curious but informing; and he most clearly ascertained that they were of three distinct periods:—viz., Celtic, before cremation was introduced by the Romans,—Romano-British, after the burning of bodies had been adopted by the natives of this country,—and Anglo-Saxon, when some of the customs of those early invaders were necessarily imported. These points were never so satisfactorily established as now; and although the objects exhumed present little that is positively new, the Dean puts his remarks on them in language that is lively and agreeable, while on the other hand it cannot be complained of as inconsistent with the nature and gravity of his inquiries.

Besides the papers which we have already noticed, there are twelve others of different degrees of merit, and therefore deserving different degrees of praise. Some of them are excellent of their kind:—as for instance, that by Mr. Richard Westmacott on Monumental Sculpture, and especially upon that in Salisbury Cathedral. It is full of good feeling, good taste, and good sense; and is drawn up with a fullness of knowledge that makes a reader sure he can trust to the details. It perhaps wanders a little from the immediate subject when it speaks, though briefly, of modern church decoration; but what is said is so fit and discreet, and so well calculated to check prevailing abuses and the sacrifice of real beauty to antiquarian pedantry, that we are glad the writer did not confine himself to his strict limits,—and earnestly recommend the whole essay to our readers. We are sure that the frequenters and visitors of some of our modern restored churches will heartily concur in the following observations.—

"There appears to be some need to warn one section of a school of would-be reformers against opening itself at least to a suspicion of affectation in another direction. Some who have urged a return to the peculiar manner of the early artists, seem, like the *pseudo* classics, to argue only on the value of antiquity, and on the fact that a certain class of art was so practised in a particular century; and they would have the rude execution of primitive times in painting and sculpture imitated, as if the repetitions of mere technical defects were points of valuable design, or showed real feeling. Some also have declared, in the same spirit, that no architecture is proper or admissible for church building but the Gothic, and that of a particular age and style. Others again, adopting a theory of symbols, assert that the presence or absence of *spirituality* is shown as the shape of a window or the curve of an arch approximates to, or departs from, the favourite standard: whether 'early English,' or 'the pointed,' or 'the decorated,' or any other style, as the case may be. This seems to be mistaking what it must be admitted is a matter of *fancy* for one of *principle;* while the fact appears to be entirely overlooked, that Christianity—and it may be hoped its *spirituality*—had existed some twelve centuries before what is called Gothic architecture was known. In this desire to recur to ancient forms, the Commandments and the Lord's Prayer, in the vulgar tongue of our own day, are often exhibited in our churches not only illuminated out of all recognition, but are written in the obsolete, and, to the greater number of people, illegible character of four or five centuries ago. There is a vital mistake in this, *in principle*, to say nothing of its ill effect on art, which cannot require for its perfection that any means or accessories it employs should be unintelligible."

The "vital mistake," of course, is, that in our day, as compared with Roman Catholic times, the object is, that all people should read and understand; but if they cannot read, how can they understand?—and we defy any ordinary observer, excepting that he knows them by heart, to make out the words of the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, or the Decalogue, as they are now exhibited in most of our churches that have undergone restoration. The architects, in their unthinking love for what was indisputably excellent in its day, would carry us back to the time when the art of drawing was not understood, and when what is absurd and grotesque was mistaken for what is natural and graceful.

Mr. C. Winston has an elaborate essay on the Painted Glass at Salisbury; but as far as the Cathedral is concerned, he could hardly have been more unprofitably engaged,—inasmuch as under Wyatt by far the greater part of what was valuable was carted away as rubbish, and used for levelling the ground in the vicinity.

The late President of Trinity College, Oxford, Dr. Ingram, has a good article on a Mosaic Pavement discovered, as long since as 1823, at Thruxton, Hants. It is, therefore, no novelty, and has been treated of by several individuals. It is remarkable as perhaps the best specimen

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in this country until that at Cirencester was found not long since, regarding which, and its design and colour, so much has been said and written. Because it was the best of its kind, our antiquaries of this class have run riot in its praise; and even Dr. Ingram falls into the usual strain, and speaks of it as "of the highest class of design," and as "standing unrivalled among similar remains of Roman or of Grecian art." Such applause, we must say, is too strong to be worth much; for though we admit that the Cirencester pavement has great beauty, it is rather beauty of combination of colour than beauty of classical design. We are, however, not surprised, that when first it was brought to light those who found it should endeavour to persuade the world that it possessed every sort of excellence in the highest possible degree. In them it was natural and excusable; but we should have thought that time might have sobered the judgment of a man like Dr. Ingram, and that he would have been content to bestow on it the approbation due to its real merits.

We cannot close this volume without, in a single word, expressing our sense of the historical learning and other qualifications displayed by Mr. Edwin Guest in his paper on 'The Early Settlements in South Britain.' It is, besides, accompanied by a map, drawn up with great care, explaining topographically every position which he advances.—Much commendation, we may add, is deserved by nearly all the illustrations in the volume,—and the woodcuts are especially excellent. The engraving of the woodwork in the chancel of Wimborn Minster, accompanying a paper by the Rev. J. L. Petit, is certainly as good as anything of the kind that we ever saw; while the modesty of the artist (perhaps Mr. Petit himself, who seems to have furnished the etching of the edifice) has led him to conceal his name. The drawings by Dean Merewether are also as good as they are unpretending:—and we say all this the more willingly, because on one or two former occasions we have felt called on to censure the scratches and blotches that have accompanied publications by Archæological Societies.

Firdusi's Hero-Legends—[*Heldensagen von Firdusi, &c.*]. Now first translated in Metre from the Persian; with an Introductory Essay on the Iránian Epos. By Adolph Friedrich von Schack. Berlin, Herz; London, Williams & Norgate.

All who read the Persian Homer in his native language speak of his poem with rapture; yet the attempts hitherto made to impart this delight, by translation or otherwise, to us of the West, have been but coldly received. For this, without questioning the genius of Firdusi, several causes may be assigned. The strongest, perhaps, may be, our radical want of sympathy with the traditions, religion, and manners of Oriental Paganism; which seem to be divided from those of Europe by a chasm that popular curiosity stubbornly refuses to pass:—so that one chief merit in the Eastern poet, his vivid reflection, namely, of the peculiar spirit and colour of his native fables, becomes a disadvantage when entrance is sought for him in a different world. Another bar to the enjoyment in translation, of Persian poetry especially, may be the circumstance that much of its charm lies in verbal graces, which escape in the transfer to any other idiom. The delight which native judges are said to find in apt or melodious turns of phrase—so much indeed that at times a single well-timed couplet thus adorned, has established a reputation—may seem to indicate a more superficial taste than consists with our notions of the essential poetic culture. This impression could only be confirmed by the proneness of Persian fancy, encouraged, no doubt, by indulgence to the mere play of words, to expend itself in idle conceits and unnatural figures,—in which ingenuity or strangeness gains an applause that our laws of taste would deny. It must, however, be added, that in their native form, many tropes and similes which, literally rendered, seem mere extravagancies or mixtures of dissonant ideas, are said to acquire some propriety of allusion or to reflect ingenious shades of meaning from glimpses of a double sense in the words employed:—so that where the translation may be purely absurd, the original will glitter in a kind of borrowed light, which gives to the apparent disproportion a charm in the eyes of native critics. However this may be, or whatever may be the worth of a poetic literature wherein mere style holds so eminent a place,—it is evident that to the effect of such a literature the process of translation must be nearly altogether fatal.

To these general causes, in the particular case of the Shah-Nameh, must be added its enormous length and unequal materials. The alarming extent of the work, which contains 120,000 lines, is a serious drawback. No translator could venture on the whole; no reader, were it translated, would have courage enough to master such a leviathan in metre. A poem which must be shown in fragments has little chance of taking a firm place in any foreign literature. Yet it is thus only that the warmest admirer of Firdusi would think of offering the "Book of Kings" to a European public.

Since the establishment of our Indian rule, the study of Oriental literature has been chiefly pursued through openings first made in various Eastern tongues with a view to military or civil business. Compelled to these by their position, many of the higher class of our residents in Asia have afterwards followed them onwards from a more liberal ambition. Such labours on the spot, where most of the old branches of language have still living representatives, have obviously some advantages over those of the Western student, confined to books and MSS. in his closet. On the other hand, it may be seen that the Anglo-Indian editors or translators of Eastern writings, could seldom command, besides their special qualifications, the general resources of a complete literary training; and the want of this is apparent in various instances where English versions of Eastern poetry have been attempted. It is not unfelt in the paraphrases and prose abridgment of Firdusi by Atkinson*—the only considerable effort we have seen to introduce the Persian poet to readers in this country. The want of poetic feeling in that version may partly account for the coldness of its welcome here:—but the reasons stated above would also militate against any, however able, representation in a new idiom of a work that, both in matter and manner, belongs to a region in which the mass of European mind can never feel itself at home.

The German Firdusi appears with nearly every advantage that scholarship and proficiency in elegant letters can bestow. The editor, Von Schack, has already distinguished himself as a judge of Western literature; and his work on the Spanish Drama is an evidence of industry in research joined to a fine apprehension of poetic beauty. In such hands, and through the medium of a language affording great facilities to the translator, the Persian poet appears under circumstances as favourable, perhaps, as can be expected in the transfer to any European tongue. The translator, to his other qualifications, adds the essential gift of warmly admiring his original; while the valuable essay which opens the work proves how closely it has been studied; and how well not only the poet himself, but the nature of his work and the whole cycle of history and tradition which it embraced, have been understood. Here, if ever, we may say, the glories of the Shah-Nameh, so highly extolled by Persian scholars, ought to shine with something of their original lustre. Yet we must confess that on our eyes the effect is by no means dazzling. The total impression of the copious specimens exhibited here, comprising, as we are assured, the finest rhapsodies from the best, or mythical and heroic, section of the Book of Kings,—is of flatness and of a strange, if not of unreal distance. There are traits of natural truth, passages of rich description, fine sentences and rapid or striking narrative; but the prevailing effect on the mind is that of a tedious series of incidents and characters too remote from our sympathies to command interest, and often too near the monstrous to be accepted as touching or sublime. The figure and exploits of Rustem, especially,—the hero *par excellence* of this part of the Shah-Nameh,—may be said to hold scarcely a better proportion with those of the nobler epic than the Saracen's head on a sign might bear to a Sultan by Velasquez.

* Oriental Translation Fund, 1832.

It would serve no purpose to exhibit any passages taken from the German version. The text, at a second remove from the original, could preserve no impression of the poet's manner; and from the vast scale of the poem itself, any extracts producible within our limits, though taken from the source, would fall short of a fair representation of its epic character. In order to understand it, moreover, the whole field of Magian tradition and mythology must first be opened; and the point of view established from which Firdusi restored the figures, which even in his time had already grown dim in the distance of ages. This necessary condition alone will ever restrict the Shah-Nameh and many other Eastern masterpieces to the few learned and diligent lovers of poetry. The great works of Greece and Rome, more happy in their destinies, are preserved in general regard by our inherited familiarity with their subjects: which have grown, as it were, a part of the body of every modern literature. But the poetry which must be the object of a particular study before even its literal meaning can be fully tasted, can never hope to pass beyond the circle of the studious.

To these, the introduction by Von Schack may be safely recommended, as containing, in a moderate compass, an able summary of all that is important to the appreciation of the Persian author. Availing himself of the labours of other scholars, and bringing abundant fruits of his own, he describes in a clear and broad outline the historic and religious sources of the Iránian Epos; and the position of the poet whose genius, after ages of obscurity, revived, under a Mohammedan dynasty, the old mythic Fables of the Fire-worshippers, which are the jewels of his enormous composition. The manner in which the later materials of the Shah-Nameh have been added to these,—omitting a long tract of centuries between the close of the Kajanides of Irán and the last of the great Persian monarchs,—is defined with more precision than has heretofore been attempted; and this is a point of high importance to a just view of the poem, the characters of which in its different portions is remarkably unequal. With the death of Rustem its proper mythic quality may be said to vanish; and what follows, after some fabulous episodes, is little more than a recital of more or less complete historic traditions; in the treatment of which the true epic character with which the poem began is exchanged for that of a versified chronicle. It is from the former division only that the editor has taken his copious translations.

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Commending to those especially interested the substance of the Essay, which particularly regards Irán and the Book of Kings, we shall pause on some general remarks on epic poetry, which equally apply to this phasis of literature in all nations. They contain a masterly description of the origin, growth, and combination of the dispersed heroic lays of rising nations, until they gain the consummate form at the hands of some fortunate genius—a Homer, a bard of the Nibelungen, or a Firdusi. In this view of their production, there appears a way to reconcile effectually the dispute, first raised by the publication of Wolff's 'Prolegomena,' which has continued to rage ever since between the asserters and deniers of a personal Homer.

The embryo of nearly all genuine Epic Traditions [says Von Schack] must be sought at the point where Mythic Fable first descends to terrestrial ground,—and, boldly combining the visible with the supernatural, begins to ally itself with historic memories. Pursuing its further progress, we see how the divine figures gradually retire more and more towards the background; while human heroes and the relations of actual life come forward in their stead. Events which powerfully seize and vividly impress themselves on the mind of a nation, now form their principal theme;—while these also, though divested of a mythical halo, as they descend by word of mouth through successive generations, ever receding into further distance, become gradually enveloped with a strange kind of twilight, like that in which the memories of childhood appear to us in declining life. As oral delivery, the only organ known in those early times, permits much freedom of alteration, the original substance thus receives manifold additions; which attempt to round off the hard angular masses of fact, to unite severed parts, and to lend intrinsic significance to the merely accidental. This process of change and increase, continued by numerous individuals throughout a series of generations, explains how History, in its course from mouth to mouth, even independently of the operations of the minstrel, and before it has assumed a metrical form, may become transformed into Poetry by the unconscious poetic instinct of the people,—which invents motives to account for actions, and frames middle terms to connect things lying apart from each other. The Sagas of all nations, however, as soon as the latter have passed the first stage of their infancy, are very early clothed in verse and metre,—which serve as aids to memory, and, combined with song, fill up the place of the written records not yet extant. These Traditions and Songs are the seeds from which, under favourable circumstances, the Epos is gradually developed. There appear Minstrels, who take possession of the stories handed down among the people, and provide for their further dissemination;—as they stand in living reciprocal relations to each other, they enlarge what they have received with successive new inventions: one supplies the imperfections which the other has left, while appropriating the turns and traits which he has successfully applied. All contend to complete the blanks which still remain,—to join together corresponding portions,—to raise and clear the poetic substance of the fables. The decomposition of the Historic basis, which had already commenced, spreads on all sides with continued rapidity;—for in this kind of delivery it is not the single historical facts that are important, but only the great destinies and deeds, the conspicuous impulses wherein the ruling spirit of the Tradition is most powerfully expressed:—the poetic Idea of the Fable creates for itself, on the one hand, such new incidents as it needs, in order to its complete incorporation, while, on the other, it devours those which impede it. Although the Saga is thus subject to incessant transformation, under the simultaneous poetic activity of so many minds, it nevertheless acquires a more and more solid texture, the more distinctly it shapes itself into form, and the more it strives to attain a satisfying completeness. Scattered traits cohere around a few prominent points; the several stories belonging to a common subject are rounded into a cyclus, and rank themselves around a fixed centre;—the matter which does not directly pertain to the course of the main action seeks to place itself as an episode in some part of the whole towards which it is determined by kindred elements. But even at this stage, no pause yet occurs; Epic Tradition, unceasingly striving towards intrinsic perfection, and the fulfilment of all its poetical laws, finds no rest until it has arrived at an equipoise of all its parts, in such a homogeneous whole, as can only be produced by the act of a single mind; and this end it attains whenever, in the period while it still is in the fluid and plastic state, it is taken up by a Poet, who, closing the long line of Minstrels, completes the work which has been growing on by the fostering influence of centuries. Inspired alike with fidelity to the popular sentiment, and with individual creative power, he brings the Rhapsodies of his predecessors into the compass of a single field of vision; developes every motive inherent in their common subject; and animates the whole with the breath of his own genius.

The various accidents which may determine either the final appearance of the Epic, in more or less perfection,—or the gradual decay of its substance into fragments of half-forgotten lays or ballads, where circumstances check its natural growth,—may easily be followed out on the line thus perspicuously laid down. The able passage that we have quoted contains the pith of the question; this, once found, any active mind will easily apply for itself such complements and limitations as are needed to adjust the general principles to particular instances. It will be found to grow more luminous the longer it is considered, in regard to individual cases:—as may be seen in reference to the Homeric dispute,—which it would tend to settle—as disputes are best concluded—on a basis of mutual concession.

The Writings of Douglas Jerrold. Vol. II. *Men of Character.* Bradbury & Evans.

'Men of Character'—a series of stories, published, if we remember rightly, in *Blackwood's Magazine* some fifteen or sixteen years ago, and afterwards collected into three volumes—constitutes the second semi-annual volume of Mr. Douglas Jerrold's collected edition. Of stories and sketches so long and well known to the reading public it is not necessary that we should speak at any length; nor do we care at this time to contrast the various merits of 'Job Pippins, the Man who *couldn't help it*,' and 'Jack Runnymede, the Man of *many thanks*,' of 'Adam Buff, the Man *without a shirt*,' and of 'John Applejohn, the Man who *meant well*,'—or, indeed, of any other of the life-like figures that crowd this canvas. We merely allow Mr. Jerrold to tell here, in his own characteristic way, so much of the story of the origin of these fancy sketches as he has thought proper to put on record in his preface. He says:—

"The incidents of each paper make no pretension to the construction of a complete story: they are rather presented as an endeavour—often, too, a hardy, extravagant one—to illustrate certain moral and personal peculiarities of the heroes (heroes of fewest inches!) with little regard to the elaborate working out of the likeness. Indeed, Men of Character are little other than Men of Outlines; pen-and-ink flourishes; with, possibly, now and then some better trace of human similitude, and now, running into mere grotesque. Thus, 'Job Pippins' is nothing more than the hero of accident. The plaything, and, finally, the prosperous man of worldly chance. Are there such men? Different readers may haply make different answers. With the writer, however, Job is somewhat of a favourite; from the circumstance that whatever good spirits may be found in him, the sunshine was not reflected from the actual hour of his pen-and-ink parent. When 'Jack Runnymede' first appeared, certain social evils and abuses, of which he is made the hero and the sufferer, were in hourly operation. They have passed away; made the pleasant sacrifices to a better time, informed with a more humanising spirit. Thus, as says *Orion*—

The circle widens as the world spins round.

The incidents of Jack's sailor life—with the characters that beset it—are little, very little coloured. And now most of them belong to the past. Englishmen are no more likely again to experience the horrors of the Tower Tender than the doings of the Argonauts. 'Adam Buff' may haply have descendants: men with a sort of topsy-turvy prosperity, that, by the turn of accident, transforms the naked necessities of their condition into their self-denying and rewarded virtues. A 'Matthew Clear' may continue to see his way; though—so have we proceeded in the work of pulling down and casting aside—there is no longer a pillory, in which the culprit is framed for an example to the lookers-on; the admonished beholders taking supplementary law into their own hands, as gathered from the gutter and the dust-bin. 'John Applejohn,' at the present time, would hardly need to sit upon the stone step of a stony sponging-house, awaiting the advent of a messenger sent 'to search the books.' It might, too, be most difficult—even impossible—for John, in 1851, to fall into the hilarious company of lords and gentlemen bound together to break the peace: yet, when John was in his literary growth, such nobles and gentry were in the flesh, and—in the newspapers. Finally—for it needs not to run through the file—'Barnaby Palms' is confessed to be a sad, mean rascal. But let him not be thought a mere knavery of fiction: an unreal villain curdled from the sourness of invention. In the treatment of some of the subjects of this volume there may be found occasional roughness of thought; but the writer would fain hope not altogether unaccompanied by something better carried along with it. Happy the writer if in his conduct of these pages he may liken himself to nothing higher than Plutarch's hedgehog. What says the grand old writer in his inquiry, '*Which are the most crafty, water animals, or those that breed in the sea?*' He says—and for the prettiness of the matter it is much that it is said upon his own testimony—'The provision which the hedgehogs make for their young ones is much more ingenious. For when autumn comes, they creep under the vines, and shake off the grapes with their feet; which done, they roll themselves up and down, and take them up into their prickles, so that when they creep away again, you would think it a walking cluster (and this we have looked on, and seen them do)! after which, returning to their holes, they lay themselves down for their young ones to feed upon.' Thus, if the book have its prickles, I trust it may also have some little fruit; if there be found hedgehogs in the pages, I hope it will be seen that here and there the hedgehogs are not without a grape."

To such of our readers—if there be any such—as are unacquainted with the sketches here alluded to, we know of few better counsels that we could offer in the interest of their good spirits and of the humanities which delight in "wise wit and witty wisdom" than a recommendation to add to the list of their Christmas guests 'Men of Character.'

The British Species of Angiocarpous Lichens, elucidated by their Sporidia. With Thirty Coloured Drawings. By the Rev. W. A. Leighton, B.A. Printed for the Ray Society.

The subscribers to the Ray Society who are devoted to botany have hitherto had some reason to complain that they had not received in its publications a fair share of attention. Whatever may have been the cause of this neglect, the present work should go a long way towards satisfying them. This work, though not presenting a large amount of letter-press, contains thirty coloured lithographic drawings of dissections of the family of plants to which it is devoted.

Although till within a recent period the study of cryptogamic plants has received scarcely any attention, it is to observations on this family that we must look for a solution of some of the most interesting problems in vegetable physiology. It is quite in accordance with the natural progress of the sciences that the general forms and functions of the highest animals and plants should first gain attention, and

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be examined and described. When, however, investigation becomes more minute, and it is found important to trace in each series of beings organs from their simplest to their most complicated developement, in order that their true functions may be known, then the study of the lower forms of animal and vegetable life becomes necessary to the understanding of the most general laws of physiology. Thus, we find the anatomist at first studying the structure and functions of the human body independently of any knowledge of the structure and functions of lower animals; but just in proportion as his investigations became minute and accurate did he find it necessary to seek in the lower animals the true meaning and significance of functions and organs which he met with in man. The same thing is now taking place in botany. Its earlier investigations were almost entirely confined to the flowering plants; but every day is now revealing to the botanist the fact, that what takes place amongst flowering plants is but the completion of a process which commences in the very lowest of the flowerless plants,—and this gives to the study of these latter the utmost significance and importance.

Although the study of the external forms of cryptogamic plants has not been neglected, as the works of Berkeley, Fries, Hooker, Taylor, and others abundantly testify,—yet very little has been done towards elucidating their structure, and the changes which they undergo during growth, by means of the microscope. It is not till the botanist is furnished with a series of such observations that he will be able to decide some of the disputed questions with regard to the growth of cells, and the mode by which plants are propagated. It is on this account that Mr. Leighton's work must be regarded as a valuable contribution to botany. It does not, however, appear to have been any part of his object to elucidate points in vegetable physiology. He has gone to work as a systematist, and his minute examination of the structure of Lichens has been for the purpose of obtaining more definite and secure points for the discrimination of species. Obvious as it might seem to be that a magnification of the structure of minute plants such as are the lichens would lead to important results, it appears that with one or two exceptions on single species no such investigations have been carried on. The observations of Mr. Leighton do not extend to the whole family of Lichens,—but only to those genera and species found in the British Islands which belong to the division in which the reproductive tissue or shield is enclosed or covered over. This includes about 120 species; which are arranged under Fries's sub-family Angiocarpi, and the tribes Sphærophoreæ, Endocarpeæ, Verracarieæ, and Limborieæ. By the microscopic examination of the sporidia, the author has found that these minute organs present more certain characters for species than any other, and that by their means the relationship of species in genera and tribes can be much more readily made out. Of course such investigations require time for confirmation; but we have already heard the value of Mr. Leighton's researches confirmed by those engaged in the study of this family of plants. On the part of vegetable physiologists, we should have been glad to have had a more detailed account of the structure of Lichens, and of their relations to the other families of cryptogamic plants. The author seems to us, in his anxiety to make out the mere form of the sporidia, to have missed a good opportunity of investigating more minutely the functions of these organs. We have no doubt, however, that he is carrying on his observations on these plants,—and we hope that in his next contribution the interests of vegetable physiology will have his attention.—The plates in the present work do not look as handsome as they are useful. We think that many of them if they had been reduced in size would have looked better; and undoubtedly those who wish to study natural history without a microscope would have been glad to have had representations of the species of Lichens of the natural size,—but these would have been very expensive, and would not in any way have contributed to the object which the author has in view.

The publication of this work will be an additional claim for the Ray Society on the patronage of the scientific world. On this occasion, as on others, it has supplemented the Transactions of the natural history societies by publishing a work too costly or extensive for any one of them to produce.—We are informed that the first volume of Mr. Darwin's Monograph on the Cirripedes is just ready for distribution,—and that the last part of Alder and Hancock's great work on the Nudibranchiate Mollusca, and a volume by Prof. Allman on the Fresh-water Zoophytes of Great Britain, will be published in succession.

A Faggot of French Sticks. By the Author of 'Bubbles from the Brunnen of Nassau.' 2 vols. Murray.

Never surely was there another country wherein not only the materials of "the faggot" but also the form in which its sticks are bound up have changed with such rapidity as in France. Think, for instance, of the sights seen by the Thrales and Dr. Johnson:—Pope's *Belinda* behind the grate of a religious house,—Madame de Boufflers' footman blowing down the spout of the curious tea-pot, brought out for use in special compliment to the English! A few years later, and "the faggot" was made up of lamp-irons!—After "the Terror" it included such objects as Horace Walpole's "Strawberries" and Mrs. Damer keeping all manner of company in the hope of attracting the notice of the First Consul:—later, Sir Walter Scott kissed on horseback by Blucher on the *Champ de Mars* after the battle of Waterloo:—subsequently, that devoutest of ladies, Madame Luchesi Palli, bringing the procession of the "Fête Dieu" into fashion by following the holy symbols through lane and kennel in the loveliest of ball dresses:—not to forget Lady Morgan insulted by the proffer of muffins and bottled porter when she was abroad to buy *bon-bons*.

Nearer to our own times we have the scenes of 1830, followed by the gay days of the young court of the Duke of Orleans. More recently still, that nine days' wonder the triumph of M. de Lamartine, and the Marrast constitution: and now —— a "*now*" so prodigious that, being no political haranguers, we may well stop short in presence of its indescribable burthen, and come to the more immediate business of this column.

Traits like the above—which will suggest more strangely-varied appearances by the thousand—are strung together only to remind the expectant reader that there is always new matter for a faggot-binder in Paris. The "Old Man" of the Brunnen, however, prefers the old matter. His book might absolutely have been written by that innocent wonderer who disembarking at Calais expressed his amazement on hearing the little children speak such good French! A large part of it—the most amusing part—contains transcripts of usages and curiosities so familiar that the noting of them now-a-days constitutes their curiosity. We have every foreign word, from "Honneur et Patrie" down to "Café et Glaces," considerately translated in a foot-note. We once again encounter the "foggy islander" surprised at the clearness of the Parisian climate. We partake in the delight felt by lively Londoners, pinched in the article of hypæthral diversions, on first seeing what a liberal provision of popular amusements is afforded by the *Champs Elysées*. We are instructed concerning the cheerful beauty of the Boulevards,—are handed through the *Hôtel de Ville*, and the Rag Fair of the *Marché du Temple*,—are permitted to assist at those parti-coloured services which make the *Madeleine* so suggestive a morning lounge to the new-comer,—are treated to a little dinner in the round room at the *Café de Paris*.—There is enough, and perhaps too much, of simplicity and good faith in all this; and any one less smart or shrewd in his inventories of familiar things than the "Old Man" of the Brunnen might have paid the penalty for his simplicity. As matters stand, his volumes will be found amusing even by those who fail to discern the presence of any great amount therein of instruction.—The following supper-party, for instance, is merrily described; though few will admit that it was worth going to Paris to describe it. The "Old Man" is mightily pleased with the shows of the *Théâtre des Animaux Sauvages*. After many tricks with leopards, tigers, and elephants, recounted with cheerful wonderment and artless garrulity,—

"The garçon [he says] now brought in a small table, a large bell, and a bell-rope, which he affixed close beneath the money-box, and then lugged in a long single plank, one end of which he placed on the table, the other end resting on the platform, close to the entrance-door behind. As soon as these preparations were adjusted, the elephant, with some dignity, pulled at the rope and rang the bell, which had scarcely sounded when, from the far corner of the platform, in tripped, dressed like a waiter, a monkey on its hind legs, holding in both arms a tablecloth and a huge napkin; the former was spread on the table, and the latter was scarcely fixed round the elephant's neck, like a pinafore, when he rang again, on which in trotted the monkey with a plate of soup, which he delivered to Charles, who gave it to the animal, whose proboscis in about three seconds sucked it all up. The elephant then instantly rang again, on which the monkey brought him in both hands a large plate of cabbage, the whole of which, extending his trunk and then tucking it upwards, he put into his mouth. The laugh which this single mouthful caused had not half subsided, when, the bell having again rung, in trotted a dish of little cutlets, two or three of which, while Charles's head was turned, the pilfering monkey stuffed into his mouth, eyeing his master all the time with a look of deep serious cunning which was very amusing. The elephant took the plate, and at one movement turned all the rest into his mouth. On wine being brought to him by the monkey, he poured some of it into a glass, drank it, and then, taking hold of the black slippery bottle, and decanting almost the whole of it into his mouth, he gave it to his tiny attendant, who, as he was running away with it, all of a sudden stopped in the middle of the plank, then with his old-fashioned face looked over one shoulder at Charles's back, and, greedily raising the bottle to his mouth, he drained it to the very last drop; lastly, with his tail protruding from his trousers, he trotted off, and, Charles's performances being over, he and the elephant respectfully bowed to the public. The huge creature's supper having concluded, the last act of the entertainment was the feeding of the remainder of the animals by the garçon-in-eating, who began his work by passing on his hands and knees through a small door that admitted him, a stout short heavy whip, a can of milk, and a basket of broken bread, into the large cage or caravansary of the monkeys. It would be exceedingly difficult accurately to describe the excitement the appearance of all these things at once created. Every captive began to chatter, and all the passions of men and monkeys were exemplified in Babel confusion. There appeared,—

First, Fear, his hand, its skill to try—
if he could not pilfer a bit of bread;
And back recoil'd, he well knew why,

writhing from the lash of the garçon's whip. In the form of a little ring-tailed blue monkey,—

Next Anger rush'd, his eyes on fire,
In lightnings own'd his secret stings;

and a duel ensued. In the attitude of the great bony chimpanzee,—

With woeful measures wan Despair,
Low sullen sounds his grief beguiled;
A solemn, strange, and mingled air,
'T was sad by fits, by starts 't was wild.

During the time the garçon with his left hand was pouring milk and breaking bits of bread into a long trough, his right arm, without favour, partiality, or affection,—in fact, evidently not caring a farthing to whom they belonged,—was constantly belabouring the innumerable sets of little, long, black fingers of hind legs as well as forelegs picking and stealing from all directions. For a considerable time the lad endeavoured to suppress this besetting vice by, as often as he could, punishing it, then and there, in detail; at last, all of a sudden, losing his whole amount of patience, he put down his basket and jug, and then, flourishing his whip as if he were going through the six cuts of the broadsword exercise, he attempted, in a state of absolute fury, to inflict indiscriminate castigation on all his prisoners."

Hospitals, barracks, washing-boats, *abattoirs*, and cemeteries are depicted in the same Denner-like manner;—to which is, nevertheless, added a touch of raciness beyond Denner's attainment. We will take our second and last extract from among the "Enfans Trouvés."—

"I followed my attendant, who was evidently in a great hurry, into a very large, long apartment, called the 'Crèche.' Before me, but rather to the left, I saw, as might be expected, the head of a baby noddling in the arms of a woman, and, walking up to her, I found seated with her, on sixteen chairs which touched each other, sixteen country-looking women, each in a peasant's dress, every one of them with a baby's head resting or noddling on her left arm; and the reason of its noddling was, that the whole of the rest of its person was swaddled as tight as if it had been a portion of the limb of a tree. As several of these women appeared to me to be old enough to be grandmothers, I was not at all astonished at hearing several of the infants, as I walked in front of them, cry; the noise, however, was altogether greater—the chorus infinitely louder—than I could account for, and I was alike stunned and astonished by it, when, on reaching the end of the line, I saw, to my utter astonishment, lying in one tray, jammed closer to each other than the notes of a pianoforte, in little black-edged caps, twelve babies, apparently born at the same minute, rather less than a week ago. Such a series of brown, red, yellow, pimpled, ugly, little faces I never beheld. Every one of them were not only squalling, but with every conceivable, as well as inconceivable, grimace, were twisting their little lips from one ear towards the other, as if all their mouths had been filled with rhubarb, jalap, aloes, mustard,—in short, with anything out of the pharmacopœia of this world but what they wanted. There appeared to be no chance of their ever becoming quiet; for one squalled because its tiny neighbour on each side squalled, and that set them all squalling; and indeed, when the chorus, like a gale of wind, for the reasons explained in Colonel Reid's history of hurricanes, to a slight degree occasionally subsided, their little countenances evinced such real discomfort, that if they had had no voices, and for want of them had made no noise at all, it would have been impossible to have helped pitying them. Nobody, however, but myself took the slightest notice of them. The nurses walked about the room; the sixteen women, leaning their bodies sometimes a little backwards, and sometimes a little forwards, seemed to be thinking only of lulling to rest their own new charge. For some time my attendant had been trying to hurry me away to what she considered more important scenes, but, without attending to her repeated solicitations, I stood for some minutes riveted to the ground; and afterwards, in turning round to take a last, lingering, farewell view of the tray-full of babies, I observed, pinned at the back of each of their caps, a piece of paper, which my attendant told me was the infant's number, which, in the register, records the day or night and hour at which it was received,—but too often that is all that is known on earth of its unfortunate history. As I was walking through this lofty and well-lighted room, the floor of which I was astonished to find so polished and so slippery that, even without an infant in my arms, I could scarcely keep on my legs, I perceived, on looking around me, that I was in a little world of babies; in fact, there were no less than 120 iron cradles full of them. In different places I observed several women feeding them with flat glass bottles, intended to represent their mothers. At the end of the room stood the statue Our Saviour. My attendant now led me into a hall full of babies' cradles on one side, and beds for matrons on the other. Then to another room, containing thirty-eight cradles; but as soon as, on the threshold of the door, she informed me they were full of infants with all sorts of diseases in their eyes, I whisked round, and, without giving her my reasons, told her I had rather not enter it. I, however, followed her through a long room full of cradles, surrounded by blue curtains, within every one of which was a sick infant, many afflicted with the measles; and such a variety of little coughings, sneezings, cryings, and here and there violent squallings, as loud as if the child had some cutaneous disorder, and they were skinning it, it would be very difficult to describe. There were two rows of buildings, which I had observed from the windows, and which my attendant told me were full of great children, whom the public are not allowed to see. She, however, with evident pride, showed me a large laundry, too stories high, and a drying ground; a farm-yard for cows and pigs; some large gardens; and an establishment of thirty yellow 'buses, with a cabriolet on the top, for transporting sixteen country nurses at a time (the very number I had seen sitting in a row waiting for their 'bus), with their sixteen babies, to the various termini of the railways on which they were to be injected into the country."

Every one will expect something of the alarmist from the "Old Man" on his visiting the military hospitals, barracks, schools, and comparing the discipline of the latter with the state of military education in England. No one, therefore, will be disappointed, or fatally frightened, by seeing the terrors of a French invasion of England hung up darkly in the distance, with the view of admonishing us to look to our ways and means in the matter of national defence.—The "Old Man," further, dined with M. le Président, and was by the same personage mounted for a review. He is satisfied that M. le Prince desires only peace and order for France, and is no more ambitious than he should be.—We note his satisfaction to indicate how curiously timed is the appearance of 'The Faggot.' But lest more weight should be attributed to the auguries and opinions of our author than they will bear, by way of farewell to his lively volumes, it should be stated, that they contain the results of only three weeks' observations taken in 1851,—but after an interval of forty years' absence from Paris.

Dialect of South Lancashire; or, Tim Bobbin's Tummus and Meary, revised and corrected, with his Rhymes, and an enlarged and amended Glossary of Words and Phrases, chiefly used by the Rural Population of the Manufacturing Districts of South Lancashire. By Samuel Bamford. J. R. Smith.

In our notice of Mr. Edward Baines's life of his father, published in May last, we referred to this work by Mr. Bamford as an example of what might be done by persons having knowledge of the changes which have occurred in local habits, modes of thought and ways of life in those districts into which the wonder-working power of steam has been introduced. The book, it appears, was published about a year ago. We met with it in the house of a friend in the country, and were deeply interested in more than one part of its contents. But we could not obtain a copy. No publisher's name was on the title-page,—no London bookseller could find it. We were told that its sturdy author and editor sold the volume on his own account,—but his private address was wanting. We presume, however, that our notice in May has at last found its way into the particular Lancashire valley in which he lives as we have just received at our office a copy, on the title-page of which it is stated, in writing, that in future the volume may be had of "J. R. Smith, Old Compton Street, Soho."

Tim Bobbin—the *nom de plume* of John Collier, poet, painter, satirist and schoolmaster—is a name known to all students of provincial dialects; but in the cottages of South Lancashire it is a deeply cherished household word. The literary productions of this eccentric person comprise squibs, satires, songs, letters, fables—in prose and in verse,—and the famous 'Tummus and Meary,' or view of the Lancashire dialect. From a short memoir by Mr. Bamford we extract the following account of him.—

"John Collier, who afterwards became known as Tim Bobbin, was born at Urmston, in the township of Flixton, in 1708. His father, whose name was also John, was a curate, and kept a school, from the profits of which, together with the income of his curacy, he was enabled to maintain his wife and several children in decency. Young Collier was intended for the church, but his father, when in the forty-sixth year of his age, becoming afflicted by the loss of sight, all idea, as it would seem, of his son's keeping up in the world was abandoned, and, in the fourteenth year of his age, he was put apprentice to a Dutch-loom weaver at Mottram, in Cheshire. Collier, however, hated mindless labour, and became an itinerating school-master, until he got a regular engagement as assistant to Mr. Pearson, who kept a school at Milnrow, near Rochdale. In a few years the situation of master became vacant by the death of Mr. Pearson, and Collier was chosen by Mr. Townley, of Belfield Hall, to fill up the vacancy. Being now in the receipt of full twenty pounds a year, he was looked upon as a person of some importance in the village; and having leisure to follow the bent of his genius, he began to practise drawing and music, and became such a proficient as to be able to give lessons to others. He also tried his hand at poetry, of a rude strain certainly, and produced various satires on eccentric characters in the neighbourhood, which got him more admirers than friends. 'The Blackbird,' which is a satire on one of the Lancashire Justices, was written in 1740. It is one of his best pieces, but its pretensions to be classed as poetry are not very prominent. He may be truly termed a witty and satirical versifier, an indifferent poet, and a not very exact rhymester.—In painting he was more successful, but his taste in this branch of art was vitiated by an excessive indulgence in a kind of cranky oddity, a straining after effect, to a degree which produced distortion, most singularly conceived certainly, and quite as truly expressed. His genius seemed to be imbued with this kind of wit; his imagination to be ever wandering in search of deformed conceits. His mind, undoubtedly, though of an uncommon vigour, was of a strange cast; and there is room for supposing that its very strong impressions gave a turn to the mental aberrations of more than one of his descendants. His pictures were unequalled, and unlike any which had ever been seen in Lancashire, if not in England, before; they consequently met with a ready sale; his fame spread, his pecuniary means became ample for his wants, and he resigned himself to the enjoyment of a present good and promising future. Before this time, however, namely in 1744, he had become smitten by, and had married, Mary Clay, of Flockton, in the parish of Thornhill, and West Riding of Yorkshire. With her he received a considerable fortune, for those days, which however did not last long, and seems to have rendered him but little service. He now began to paint altar-pieces for country churches and chapels; occasionally he painted signs for public houses; and afterwards he struck into the style of broad humour, which procured him both so much celebrity and remuneration. It was during a

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pause in this career that he seems to have written his famed literary production, 'A View of the Lancashire Dialect,' many editions of which were quickly disposed of. It took amazingly; like his pictures, it was the first thing of the kind that had ever appeared in these parts; like them also, though marked by uncommon talent, it was so profuse of imagination that it did not convey a truthful representation of its subject, but left that subordinate to the irrepressible oddity of its author. The beauties of nature, and the true poetry of the hills, dales, woods, and streams around him, appear to have had but few attractions for Collier, who seems to have revelled in forms and phantasies of things as they were not. His Lancashire Dialect was not the spoken dialect of any one district of the county; and his friend Mr. Townley, of Belfield, in writing to a gentleman at Manchester, describes him as taking note of every quaint, odd, out-of-the-way term, or phrase, which he heard during his perambulations in different parts of the county, and incorporating them in his 'View of the Lancashire Dialect.' At one time he engaged to become book-keeper to a cloth-manufacturer of Yorkshire, but the place did not suit his volatile taste and habits; and having induced his employer to cancel the agreement, he returned once more, happy as a freed bird, across the hills, and down to his old school-nook at Milnrow. Here he continued to reside, keeping school, painting pictures, and writing occasional pieces in prose and verse, together with various letters to friends, and here he died, in 1786, and in the 78th year of his age."

We are not disposed to question any part of this judgment. 'Tummus and Meary' is by many degrees Mr. Collier's best work,—it is full of quaint humour, racy puns, and odd allusions; but it cannot be read without a glossary, and is not perhaps to be fully enjoyed except by those "to the manner born."

In the excellent introduction to the volume before us Mr. Bamford has described the state of South Lancashire just before the introduction of cotton factories and Watt's engines. This description is too long for extract entire, and is too well connected to admit of easy curtailment. We will, therefore, content ourselves with referring the reader and the historian to this homely and well-drawn picture of a condition of society no longer existing. It is in such accounts as this that we can best trace the progress of that great social revolution which is taking place in our country and generation.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

History of the Conseil d'Etat from its Origin to the Present Day—[*Histoire, &c.*]. By A. Regnault, Librarian of the *Conseil d'Etat.*—If M. Regnault had performed his task as he ought to have done, a 'History of the Council of State of France' would have been as interesting and remarkable a book as could well be written. But he, unfortunately, has most confused ideas on the subject of writing history; and, in spite of his occupation as librarian to the august body the origin and progress of which he has undertaken to describe, his acquaintance with books seems to be confined in a great measure to their bindings. In no respect can we commend the present publication. The arrangement is confused; the knowledge of the author of the subject on which he writes is very limited; the style is disagreeable; and throughout the whole composition there is a tone of exaggeration and fulsome flattery in the highest degree unpleasant. It is a great pity that so good a subject has fallen into such feeble hands. The French Council of State has never equalled in dignity and influence our own venerable institution of a Privy Council. The pure despotism of the French monarchy led to constant invasions of the rights and independence of the Conseil d'État. Louis the Eleventh, for example, broke up the institution altogether, and sent the councillors about their business. Bonaparte, on the other hand, took great pains to render it an instrument of great use in the administration of his government. At all times, however, whether the Conseil d'État was in favour or in disgrace, it was an imposing object in the limited field of the permanent political institutions of France; and some day, no doubt, it will find a historian who will bring to the task something better than the mechanical qualifications of M. Regnault.—In the mean time, it occurs to us to suggest to some of our own antiquarian historians that a new and wide field remains to be explored in connexion with the history of our own Privy Council. If a writer could be found who should happily combine the truthfulness of Hallam with the imagination of Scott, our literature might be enriched in no common manner by a work on the origin, constitution, usages, and powers of the Privy Council.

The Tourist's Flora. By Joseph Woods.—Steam and railways bring nearer to man not only nations and cities:—the forests, oceans, and rivers of the world are rendered by them more accessible to his investigation. The botanist and zoologist are no longer satisfied with descriptions of British animals and plants:—the Floras and Faunas of every country in Europe are eagerly sought for. —Mr. Woods has produced this work in order to supply the botanist with a description of the plants of the principal countries of Europe in one convenient volume. It embraces a descriptive catalogue of the flowering plants and ferns of the British Islands, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and the Italian islands. The more northern countries of Europe are alone excluded. The most difficult object which the author had to effect was, that whilst his descriptions of plants should be clear and decisive, the volume should not be too bulky for the pocket or knapsack of the traveller. In this he has succeeded. By shortening the generic characters and giving their distinctive features in italics, and by extensively subdividing the species into groups according to a common character, he has saved much space without diminishing the accuracy of the descriptions.—The mere sciolist in botany, however, must not expect that he will be able by the aid of this work to name any plant that he may meet with in a European tour; but the man already skilled in the science will find this a useful and interesting companion. Though Mr. Woods is well known as a patient and careful botanist, it would be too much to expect that he should be personally answerable for all the descriptions here given. Instances, however, are not unfrequent of original investigation:—and where this has not been bestowed, the best authorities have been consulted and are given.

The Breeding and Economy of Live Stock. By James Dickson.—Farmers and graziers have now a literature of their own. The information which fifty years ago could be obtained only through oral tradition and extensive journeyings over the country may now be had, by all who can read, in octavo volumes. The Scotch farmers have taken the lead in this work of instructing each other:—and here, we have now a book purporting to be the result of forty years' practical experience in the management and disposal of cattle, horses, sheep, and pigs by a cattle-dealer. Those who are interested in the subject will find a great deal of useful matter in this volume:—especially in relation to the various Scotch breeds of these animals.

Readings in Science and Literature for use in Senior Classes. By Daniel Scrymgeour.—Most reading books consist of miscellaneous extracts in prose and poetry, intended to serve as exercises in elocution rather than as a means of conveying information. And it is undoubtedly desirable that books which are to be read aloud should contain specimens of every variety of style. But intellectual improvement is of more consequence than mere skill in elocution; and if the two cannot be consulted in the same work, the former ought to have the preference. Such are the views with which Mr. Scrymgeour has prepared these readings. He has presented the reader with a connected series of lessons upon the most popular and interesting branches of science, natural history, geography, history and biography. Most of them are taken from writers of eminence in their several departments, and all are of a literary cast in point of style. The summary of general history, which appears to have been drawn up by the compiler, is perhaps the most valuable part of the book. It is astonishing how much information is comprised within the seventy pages devoted to the subject, and how happily the amount of space allotted to each part is proportioned to its importance. The outlines are distinctly marked, and yet not so bare as to render the narrative uninteresting. A vast fund of biographical and other information is contained in the notes. There are a few poetical extracts at the end, followed by a chapter on English etymology, and a Latin vocabulary, to assist the student in tracing the derivation of words. Altogether this is a very superior class-book.

The Chemical Directory and Pharmaceutist's Companion.—This is a valuable little handbook,—and will prove very serviceable to chemists and druggists in general. It contains the last London Pharmacopœia,—the Act of Parliament to regulate the Sale of Arsenic,—the Rules and Regulations of the Pharmaceutical Society and of the Royal College of Chemistry. There are, in addition, a Directory of the Chemists and Druggists of London, a general Directory of all in the trade throughout the kingdom, and a Retail Price List. The comprehension in one volume of so many points of utility must, we repeat, commend this work to the drug trade in general.

Introductory Lessons in the French Language; with a Series of Exercises. By C. J. Delille.—The elements of the French language are here communicated with brevity and clearness. A few simple exercises for translation are subjoined.

The Metamorphoses of Ovid, Literally Translated into English Prose, with copious Notes and Explanations. By Henry T. Riley, B.A.—It is not long since we had to commend a translation of Ovid's Fasti and Pontine Epistles by the same hand as the present. We are now able to speak equally well of Mr. Riley's second attempt. He translates very faithfully,—yet always gives good English. Each fable is preceded by a brief summary of the contents,—and followed by an explanation of its probable origin and meaning, principally drawn from the writings of ancient historians, philosophers and mythologians, together with those of modern travellers and scholars. Information is given in the notes with regard to all points which the ordinary reader might have a difficulty in understanding.—We do not see any reason why Mr. Riley should so often obtrude the mistranslations of others on the reader's attention.

A Practical Grammar of the Italian Language. By L. Mariotti.—For English students of Italian there cannot be a better grammar than this. It is as short and as simple as it could well be made, and yet contains enough for all practical purposes. Beginners will find it exactly adapted to meet their wants. It abounds in examples and easy exercises. Practical utility has been the great aim of the author, who has accordingly omitted the usual definitions of the noun, verb, &c.—taking it for granted that the reader is already familiar with the first principles of general grammar. The exercises are scattered throughout the book just where illustrations of the principles laid down are likely to be most useful. But the author does not profess to enable the reader to learn "Italian without a master." He looks to the assistance of a competent teacher for the complete success of this educational effort.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Addison's The Knights Templars, 2nd edit. sq. cr. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Allerton and Dreux; or, the War of Opinion, 2 vols. 12s. cl.
Andersen's Danish Fairy Legends, &c. 2nd edit. 12mo. [illegible]
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GEOGRAPHY OF THE EXODUS.

A brief acknowledgment was due to Miss Corbaux for her papers in the *Athenæum* of June 28 and July 5. Absence from England, and engrossing occupation since my return, have prevented me from offering it before tho present time.

There are two subjects treated in those papers: the primæval geography of the country, and tho course of the Exodus.

With respect to the primæval geography, let me state that I think that Miss Corbaux has completely made out the point, that the great south-eastern basin was, at some distant time, habitually filled with sea-water, supplied from the Red Sea; and that in this sense it was a veritable gulf of the sea, although possibly communicating with the principal sea by a very shallow strait. I am aware that Miss Corbaux has exerted herself in several directions, in order to procure the authentic information on which this important conclusion is founded; and I think that the gratitudo of antiquarian geographers is due to her for her zeal and her success.

I think, also, that Miss Corbaux has clearly shown that the Nile had a natural channel or creek (a cul-de-sac) as far as the lakes Temsah, and that it is not improbable that the canal from the neighbourhood of the lakes Temsah to the south-eastern basin was made for the purpose of relieving the Wady Tumilat from superabundant floods. (The examination of the depth of this canal, which was not made in the late survey, is perhaps the only very important particular now wanting to our complete acquaintance with this region.) But I do not infer, as a necessary conclusion from this, that the lakes Temsah were the Bitter Lakes which were mado sweet by tho Nile water. It appears to me that this expression applies to a lako or lakes which had been *habitually* salt and were now made *transiently* fresh; and this character belongs rather to the great south-eastorn basin (especially if the exclusion of the sea began about the time when the canal in question was made) than to the Temsah lakes.

As to the elevation of the bar at Suez, I entirely agree with the general conclusion at the end of Miss Corbaux's last paper: that the ground certainly has been raised, even a little in modern times (as I had myself suggested, I believe before it occurred to Miss Corbaux, *Athen.* 1850, March 16); but that it is impossible on geological evidence to say by what degrees or with what fluctuations this rise has been made; and that we are justified here in guiding ourselves by the Scriptural account of the Exodus. But in the application of this principle, I differ entirely from Miss Corbaux. To her position that "we cannot admit that any part of the sea was known to be fordable at that time, either to Moses or to the natives," I can only oppose my strong opinion that it *certainly* was known to Moses, and *probably* to Pharaoh and the natives. It certainly was known to Moses: because he was not bringing the Israelites simply to wander in the Egyptian desert, but was conducting them to a definite place long previously fixed on by himself (namely, Sinai), and had not been disturbed in his march, and was therefore taking a road which he knew, to a definite point of passage of the sea. It probably was known to Pharaoh; because his armed interference appears to have been, not a pursuit along the crooked line of march of the Israelites, but a short straight march, directed to intercept them precisely at the point where (in human calculation) they *must* cross the sea, or pass between the sea and a lake,—and which point, I conjecture, to be not far from Suez. I must, therefore, dissent from Miss Corbaux, in regard to the great depth which she assigns to the sea at Suez at the time of the Exodus.

Whether the shallowness (under certain circumstances of wind, &c.) of another passage was previously known to Moses, we have no means of discovering. But as Moses was, by residence, familiar with the country,—as he had doubtless made himself acquainted with the passes by which it might be necessary to lead his people,—and as he marched at night to the place without any tentative trial, I should suppose that he was previously aware of the shallowness.

In regard to the course of the Exodus, I would not have troubled your columns with another word, but that tho consideration of Miss Corbaux's theory has suggested to me an idea which I think worth propounding. It may seem fanciful to fix upon a precise state of the ground for the explanation of the Exodus; yet the state which I suppose is *à priori* as probable as any other; on the assumption that Miss Corbaux's theory is correct, the supposed state certainly lasted some time and probably a long time; and the supposition assists, in a remarkablo degree, to reconcile the different theories.

I must briefly recapitulate [*Athen.* 1849, Nov. 10] that I adopt the account in the Septuagint as preferable to that in the ordinary Hebrew text, because the countermarch which it implies explains the appearance of the pillar of fire behind (which is not explained in the Hebrew account), and because the south wind explains the laying dry of the south end of the lake, provided it were not in connexion with the sea (whereas the east wind of the Hebrew account explains nothing).

Suppose now that the Exodus occurred when the Bar of Suez was so far elevated that the tidal high water passed over it, and the low water left it (hydrographically speaking) dry. The water in the great basin would then be fully as salt as the sea. Tho Bar of Suez would be, during somo hours of each tide, a wet slimy slob; easy of passage (though uncomfortable) for bodies of men who were marching without alarm, but most difficult for men who feared the attack of even a small body of enemies. At the same state of the tide, the great basin would be practically a lake unconnected with the sea, and the south wind would lower the waters at the end next the sea.

It appears to me that we have here a union of all the circumstances that we desire. The Israelites were prepared, as soon as the tide should be favourable, to take the muddy pass, when they were surprised by the advanced guard of Pharaoh's cavalry. To attempt the pass would then have been madness; but as a stationary body (and possibly defended with a barricade of waggons, &c.) they had nothing to fear for a few hours. In the night they decamped, and marched up the bank of the lake to the place which the wind had laid dry or nearly dry, and there they crossed. This passage must have been made when the tide was so low that the lake had been unconnected with the sea for a few hours. Probably when Pharaoh attempted the same place the tide had risen, and was rushing with great force over the Bar of Suez.

It is evidently necessary now (as Miss Corbaux has remarked) to select a place for the passage where the depth is less than that on which I had fixed at first. Tho brow at the south end of the basin, where the traces of tho canal first become visible, appears to answer well to the requisite conditions, especially if it has not risen quite so much as the Bar of Suez. This, as I understand, is the place upon which Miss Corbaux has fixed in her last paper.

The discussion of this question has now terminated on my part. A. B. G.

Greenwich, Dec. 3.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

A voluminous blue book has just been issued from the Admiralty, betraying by its numerous typographical errors manifest signs of the haste with which it has been prepared. It contains the Report of the Committee appointed by the Admiralty to inquire into the recent Arctic Expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin,—together with the minutes of evidence taken before the committee, and various documents connected with the subject:—and has evidently for its main object the exculpation of Capt. Austin in respect of these matters at the expense of Capt. Penny.

We shall feel it our duty, in relation to the part which we have taken in the history of the late Expeditions, to enter into a critical examination of the evidence in connexion with the Report;—which we have no hesitation in saying, on this hurried view, carries a verdict entirely at variance with the facts elicited. But this must be the result of a very careful examination of the evidence:—and we therefore defer our remarks until next week.

In the meanwhile, we may announce that, it having been part of the duty of the committee to report as to what benefits can be expected from any further research, and by what means and in what directions such search should be prosecuted, they have, as wo had anticipated, decided on recommending the Admiralty to despatch an expedition next year to Barrow's Strait, consisting of the same ships which composed Capt. Austin's division, namely, two sailing ships and two steamers, with orders to proceed direct to Beechey Island, and to consider that harbour—beyond which they think one sailing ship and one steamer should on no account be taken—as the base of future operations. They consider any further exploration in the direction of Melville Island or to the south-west of Cape Walker to be wholly unnecessary; and propose that all the strength and energy of the Expedition should be directed towards the examination of the upper part of Wellington Strait. They are of opinion that by the adoption of the same careful and well considered arrangements which were attended with such satisfactory results on the late occasion, this examination may be effected without any serious risk of loss or danger.

It is further recommended that the seasons of 1852 and 1853 should be devoted to the search,—but the plan of exploration during the latter year should be such as to enable the whole Expedition to return to England in the autumn of that year.

CONTINENTAL RAILWAYS.

The great net-work of European railways developes itself apace:—changing, as it spreads, the geographical relations of countries, the routes of pleasure, commerce and literary communication,—making the Hand-books of last year obsolete,—and outgrowing the latest editions of the Continental Guide. So far as English interests are concerned, one of the most important of the new facts brought out by the recent opening of new sections of railway works is,—that the quickest route to Baden, Switzerland and Northern Italy is no longer by the Belgian railways and the Rhine. *Bradshaw* still misinforms his readers that the way from Bâle to London is by Cologne—the time occupied in the journey, five days. The route, however, by the Alsatian railway to Strasburg, and thence through Lorraine and Champagne to Paris, Boulogne and London may be accomplished, now that the railway is open to

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Bar-le-Duc, if need be, in less than forty-eight hours. Or, to make the journey in a pleasant manner possible for ladies and children,—the traveller may leave Bâle at eleven o'clock in the morning, arrive in Strasburg at four, dine there, and depart at six the same evening for Paris,—where he will arrive next day at the same hour. Sleeping in Paris, he may start next morning at eight, and be in London in twelve hours:—making the entire journey, including all stoppages, in fifty-seven hours, instead of five days! Next year the line will be completed between Saarburg and Bar-le-Duc,—the only unfinished part of the great trunk line from Paris to Strasburg,—when Bâle may be easily reached on the second day; and the natural route to Rome, Venice, Zurich, and Milan will be restored. A curious incident of the railway system is, the fact that the best way from London to Venice has been—and perhaps still is—through Dresden and Vienna:—a route describing an immense arc, the chord of which would pass through Zurich, Strasburg and Boulogne.

The progress of the great works already in course of construction must in a few years go a long way towards a restoration to France and Switzerland of the benefits of their central geographical position; but in the mean time it is clear that every day of supineness and delay in the execution of these most important public works on the part of those countries adds to the difficulties which they will meet with in the attempt to regain their old station as highways and paths of transit between the north-west and north-east of Europe. As a first rule, trade and travellers will always follow the quickest and most convenient roads from point to point; but both commerce and passengers have a tendency to fall into fixed courses,—and when once a line of road becomes established in general estimation, the rival line must possess the most positive and striking advantages in order wholly to dispossess the former of its acquired *clientèle*.

France has lost—and must lose for many years to come—immensely by her want of energy and enterprise in the construction of her railways. A hasty glance at the map of Europe will reveal facts which ought never to be forgotten by the men who rule the destinies of that great country. A thread run out from Switzerland, Bavaria, Wirtemberg or Baden will first touch the ocean at Havre:—that town, therefore, is the natural outlet for the trade of Central Europe. But the facilities afforded by the Rhine navigation made Holland for many ages the depôt for that vast region; and instead of the wines, ores, woods and other produce finding their way to sea at Havre, they passed through the hands of agents in Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Antwerp. The rise of the iron road offered to France the advantage of greater proximity and better access to the great productive field; but she failed to seize the opportunity, and before a hundred miles of her trunk line was laid down, Ostend, Antwerp and Amsterdam were all connected with the Rhine. Thus, the old course of trade remained unchanged. Since the advent of the republic greater activity has prevailed in the Department of Public Works. This year the two ends of the Strasburg line have been brought considerably nearer; on the Paris side the line has been pushed eastward from Épernay to Bar-le-Duc; on the Rhine side it has been advanced so far as to give promise of an opening throughout in the early part of next year. Railway works are progressing in other parts of France, though not with the same rapidity. This year there have been thrown open—the large section of the Bordeaux line between Tours and Poictiers, the entire line from Paris to Nantes, the branch from Nerondes to Nevers, the extension from Noyen to St. Quinten, and the section from Tonnerre to Dijon. Between Châlons and Avignon the works are impeded by the Government; and this important section, which would complete the communication between Calais, Havre and Marseilles, and connect the Mediterranean with the English Channel—in every respect the most important railway in France and for France—will not be ready for traffic in less than four or five years from this date.

The railway system has been and still is better appreciated in Germany. Since last year the great central line from Leipsic to Weimar, Erfurt, and Hanover has been finished as far as Carlshafen,—and in a few months it will be attached to the Cologne lines. The opening of the Hamburg and Marburg section has established a direct road from Berlin to Frankfort, and connected Bâle with Hamburg, Stettin, and Szolnok. Within the same period another line has joined Munich and the centre of Bavaria with the lake of Constance,—yet another has linked Ulm, Augsburg, and the northern cities to Stutgardt,—Pirna and Prague have been wedded with the iron band,—and the route from London to Vienna by this junction is rendered considerably shorter and pleasanter, substituting the beauties of the Saxon Switzerland and the historic glories of Prague for the long passage of Silesia and the manufacturing city of Breslau.

Austria is making the grandest efforts to complete her railway line from Vienna to Trieste, so as to bring the latter town—her only national port—into direct railway communication not only with the capital, but also with Pesth, Prague, Brünn, Dresden, Berlin, and the great outlets of the Baltic and the German Ocean, Stettin, Kiel, Hamburg, Antwerp and Ostend. The works in process of construction for the passage of the alpine ridge of the Semmering—which divides the already completed works from Vienna to Glognitz and from Laybach to Muzzuschlag—are pushed forward with extraordinary energy. Thirteen tunnels and twenty-five viaducts, amongst which is that of Kaltenrinne, two stories high, give an idea of these magnificent works. The tunnels are terminated, and the works of art are advancing rapidly. Not less than 13,000 workmen and 2,000 horses are employed; and the engineers have hopes of finishing the works in the beginning of 1853. The road between Laybach and Trieste—a country of extreme engineering difficulty, but the only other incomplete part of the line from Calais to the Adriatic—is in progress of being surveyed, and the exact line is perhaps laid out by this time, so as to avoid as much as possible the spurs of the Illyrian Alps. France is aware of these gigantic efforts of her old rival; and public opinion in that country demands the immediate cession and completion of the Marseilles line. The great prize contended for by the two great powers is, the transit between London, Alexandria, Calcutta and Canton. The greater forwardness of the railway system in Germany gives that road a preference over every other for travellers and traders to whom a few hours of time may be an object; but every mile of railway opened on this side of the Splügen tells in favour of the Franko-Swiss road. Even measuring by time, from Venice to London, by Milan, Como, Splügen, Zurich, Strasburg and Paris, is not much longer than from Trieste to London, through Vienna, Leipsic and Cologne,—while the attractions of the road, both natural and historical, are infinitely greater. Nor can the German road be made much better than it is now. The completion of the Austrian works will only shorten the latter route twelve or fifteen hours,—while the former may be reduced from forty to fifty hours. The opening of the line from Verona to Treviglio—rapidly approaching completion—will connect Venice with Como, and diminish the journey between those towns from nearly two days to less than one. No engineering difficulty prevents the construction of an iron road along the Lake of Como to Chiavenna; whence a few hours' ride over the Splügen brings the traveller to Coire,—a town connected with the contemplated system of Swiss railways running to Zurich and Bâle, and so into the trunk lines to Strasburg and Paris. When these means of communication shall be opened, France and Switzerland will naturally become the highways to Italy, Egypt, and the East.

Throughout Northern Italy the railway spirit is most active. The magnificent bridge across the Lagoon—two miles in length—has been rebuilt and repaired since the bombardment of Venice caused its destruction,—and that unique city is once more chained to the main land. The line of railway is already open from Venice to Padua, Mantua and Verona; and the governments of Modena, Parma, Tuscany, and even Rome have entered into a convention for a net-work of iron to connect these States with the great military centres of Austrian power in Italy—Milan, Mantua and Verona. This treaty is unquestionably the result of political intrigue,—and it is met by Sardinia, as it should be, not with vapourings and protests which can have no effect, but with renewed efforts to complete its own chain of internal and external communication. The line from Turin to Genoa is finished between Turin, Alexandria, Novi, and Arquata, to the foot of the Apennines. Works not less gigantic than those of the Austrian Semmering are at this moment in course of execution for the passage over the Apennines between Arquata and Genoa. It is supposed that they will be terminated in 1853; and the port of Genoa will then be able to dispute with Marseilles and Trieste the goods and passenger traffic to India. It is said, that an English company has already treated with the Sardinian government for the concession of the line between Turin and Susa,—and that the negotiations opened for the concession of the line from Modane to Chambery and the French frontier are far advanced. Neither of the two sections of the line uniting the Piedmontese line to the French railways presents any serious difficulties; but between Modane and Susa the vast obstacle of Mount Cénis must be got through by means of a tunnel about seven miles and a half in length. When this gigantic work shall be achieved, there will no longer be any Alps to those who may choose to avoid them.

In Russia, too, the railway spirit is at work. The Emperor has given orders for the construction of a new line from St. Petersburgh to Warsaw, and the earthworks have been already commenced under the superintendence of General Gerstfeldt, who assisted in the construction of the Moscow line. The Russo-Polish line will probably occupy about ten years.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Egypt.

In descending the Nile we stopped on one occasion at a place called Ramâdeh, some miles north of Haggar Silsilis, on the west bank, and a little below the embouchure of a broad deep canal,—then perfectly dry, but which during the inundation must carry a considerable body of water for some distance nearly parallel to the river. What districts this canal may fertilise in its lower course I do not know:—possibly it may communicate with the rich plains about Sefoo. But at Ramâdeh there were no traces of cultivation,—and with the exception of a single clump of palm-trees nodding like drowsy sentinels over the entrance of the canal, no vegetation beyond coarse *halfeh* grass and some hungry thistles and prickly plants. Climbing up the steep bank and traversing a narrow level piece of land, we came to the canal; which we crossed,—and now found ourselves amongst the first undulations of the rocky hills, rising here to a great height on either side of a defile that extended far into the interior of the desert.

For a great distance the bottom was smooth and level, like an artificial road; and from the appearance of the rocks I began to feel certain that the old Egyptians must have been at work in that neighbourhood. At length, however, the great defile broke up into a number of smaller ones, which had all the appearance of having been worn by mountain torrents; and it seemed most probable that nature only had been quarrying there. I turned aside to ascend a lofty hill-point; and came to some small caves that may have been the handiwork of man, and are now the resort of wild beasts at night. From the summit I obtained a magnificent view over a perfect network of defiles intersecting a vast stony desert bounded on all sides by vast stony hills. On a small plain to the south-west I observed an immense number of black boulders, which at first sight presented the appearance of a ruined city, and then suggested the idea of a giant's burying place. From what I afterwards found, I am led to think that these boulders may bear inscriptions.

Turning southward, I crossed the main branch of the winding defile of Ramâdeh; and on the opposite side saw some caves that seemed to have been scooped out for the sake of a fine yellow earth, but were now fronted by inclosures of loose

stones like those behind which the Bedawins lie in wait for gazelles or hyænas. A rough scramble upwards brought me to the crest of a hill from which I could view the southward course of the valley of the Nile, and a broad desert plain which the retreating hills had left between themselves and the bed of the river. I call it a plain, though broken up by various inequalities, strewed with loose rocks, and intersected by watercourses. At the distance of nearly a mile a singular group of boulders attracted my attention,—and in spite of the heat of the day I determined to make my way towards it. I was repaid by discovering that they were covered with rude sculptures and inscriptions; one of which contained the cartouche of a king, considered to have been very ancient. A number of large horned bulls were sprinkled over the surface of these huge blocks of stone,—which seemed the ruins of a Druidical structure; and several horsemen armed with spears were represented with considerable spirit. As well as I could judge from a distance, the stones which I saw on the small plain in the interior were similar in character with these, and lie nearly due west of them. Eastward, towards the river, at a very short distance, was a cluster of rough pillar-shaped boulders, which may have been partly arranged by the hand of man; but they presented no traces of sculpture. A little distance from these were the ruins of stone-built huts, showing that the place had formerly not been destitute of inhabitants.

I have not ventured on any suggestion as to the origin of these inscriptions,—which have never before been noticed that I am aware of. Possibly they are of slight importance in themselves;—but this can be ascertained only on examination. I am inclined to consider their presence as an additional inducement to some that I have put forward in previous letters towards a more complete exploration of all this neighbourhood. Indeed, I feel convinced that much yet remains to be done by travellers who will pass by the better known sites in every part of Egypt. They may not find a new Karnac or a second Dendera; but they may bring to light many valuable documents for the study of the ancient civilization of this extraordinary country.

Considering the immense amount of writing and talking that there has been on the subject of Egyptian antiquities, it is really wonderful what a small amount of documents exists in Europe whereon rational conclusions may be based. It is true that in various museums there are to be found a great number of fragments; but I consider these fragments as of very little authority when deprived of what may be called their context,—especially as some of the collections styled most valuable have been made by individuals who had particular systems and theories to support. If any serious design of penetrating the mystery of the hieroglyphics were entertained, the course adopted would be to make exact copies, not only of whole series of hieroglyphics, but also of the sculptures by which they are surrounded. Take the Temple of Karnac for example. Of what invaluable service would a complete miniature representation of that temple prove,—and how much more firmly would students be able to proceed in their investigations with such materials before them than now when they have only garbled extracts!

Without disparaging the talents or the services of a variety of travellers who have come to Egypt for the purpose of studying hieroglyphics, I think a greater debt of gratitude would be due to any who should undertake the more humble duty of copying them. I cannot have confidence in bits picked out here and there, and translated with a courage which seems to increase in exact ratio with the difficulty. I know that nearly all hieroglyphists differ more or less about the interpretation of every passage on which an inference can be founded; and that though some have attempted to write hieroglyphics, no one as yet pretends that even the alphabet is distinctly ascertained. How fortunate would it be if the eager tendency to systematize now prevailing were checked for awhile,—and if before the information communicated by a language were discussed some tolerable agreement could be come to about the language itself.

I noticed recently the report of a short discussion which took place in the House of Commons on the proposed removal to England of one of the Alexandrian obelisks. As a matter of taste I think it would be better to restore it to its former upright position, and leave it on its original site. It can have no possible significance in England, except as the record of an event which the Rosetta stone sufficiently commemorates; but if raised as a companion to the now erect Needle, it would be a great ornament to the city of Alexandria. Waiving this point, however, I would suggest that in a country like England, where so much interest is felt in the study of Egyptian antiquities, and such high expectations are entertained of the assistance that they will afford to the elucidation of both sacred and profane history, it is surprising that no attempt has been made to rival, if not to surpass, the missions sent by foreign Governments. Even in the present state of their affairs, the French are spending money in excavating the newly discovered temple at Sakkarah, and taking accurate copies of all inscriptions and sculptures that remain in anything like a complete state. Surely England might do a little in this line also. I would not recommend what is called a scientific mission; it would be much more useful to send a few young artists with orders to copy all the hieroglyphics on the most important temples, as well as the numerous tablets and fragments which are daily brought to light. A work pursued with such materials—all theories and arbitrary classification being excluded—would ever remain as a lasting monument, and would reflect great credit on the Government which should order its execution. Less than one-half of the money required for the removal of the Obelisk would amply cover all expenses; and I think there can scarcely be a doubt that the plan which I propose would be infinitely more useful than that in opposition to which I place it.

Some persons have maintained that a tolerably accurate guess may be made as to the time when the alluvium of the Nile began to be deposited on the hilly basis of the valley by *counting* the strata as year by year they have been left by the receding waters. I am afraid that no such result can in reality be arrived at. Indeed, from a view of the whole banks of the Nile, I am led to believe that the original strata nowhere remain undisturbed. Possibly something might be guessed from an examination of the earlier deposit before cultivation began; but even then, I suspect that the process of spontaneous vegetation will have so shaded off—if I may so express myself—the various thin strata one into the other, that a comparison of them to the rings in the trunk of a tree, by which its age is ascertained, will be found to be eminently inapplicable. The banks of the river to the height of 20 feet are often visible to the traveller,—and they suggest anything but a series of annual horizontal deposits. Sometimes there is a layer of red-looking earth, a foot or so deep,—sometimes a bank of sand has been inclosed bodily in the *shifting* alluvium. At a distance from the river greater regularity may possibly be observed in the strata. At any rate, an attempt is now in progress of being made to ascertain the fact, and wells are being sunk, at the desire of an American gentleman, I believe, but at the expense of Abbas Pasha, both at Heliopolis and at Memphis. Some useful discoveries may be the result; and it is to be hoped that the primary object of these works may not be frustrated by the presence of water.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

On Thursday in last week Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold by auction at their rooms in Piccadilly an interesting collection of historical and heraldic manuscripts and drawings. The most important of these papers was, an unpublished Diary of Walter Yonge of Colyton and Axminster, representative for Honiton from 1640 to 1649. It consists of six pocket volumes very closely written, some of the matter in cypher; and among other curious entries—Devonshire Memoranda, Abstracts of Sermons, and Notices of the Progress of the Civil War—it contains minute accounts of the acts and debates of parliament during a part of that eventful period. A previous portion of this diary was edited a few years since for the Camden Society by Mr. Roberts, of Lyme. The valuable continuation was purchased, we believe, for the British Museum. The MS. next perhaps in point of interest to the Diary related to old London localities:—being a volume containing copies of deeds, grants, charters, and other papers connected with the estates of Sir George Monoux, citizen and Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Henry the Eighth. A letter book, in two thick volumes, of the Sovereigns of Spain and Emperors of Germany, containing copies of Letters written during the century 1546 to 1646,—'The Book of the Church Accompts made this present Year of our Lorde 1584,' being the original churchwarden's accounts for the parish of Berkhampstead, in Herts, from 1585 to 1746,—the Court Roll of George Villiers, Fenton's Duke of Buckingham,—and many documents of importance for the history of France, Italy, Sicily, and the Low Countries, were included in the sale.—There was some spirited private bidding for the "Yonge Diary," arising, as we understand, from the fear that once deposited in the Museum it may not be immediately forthcoming for the use of historical students;—a circumstance which becomes at one and the same time a money loss and a moral rebuke to the managers of that institution. No one will contend that the national library is not the proper place of deposit for such historical treasures; but past experience justifies men of research in the doubt whether under present circumstances it is the best. In the hands of a private owner this Diary would, no doubt, have borne after its kind some immediate fruit. But were it not for the inevitable publicity which the present announcement gives to the fact, perhaps not a dozen persons would otherwise have been made aware of its acquisition by the State for the next four or five years.—Another point in connexion with this purchase invites remark. As we said above, part of the Diary is in cypher. Now, reading cyphers is an art—an art that asks special aptitudes of mind. Moreover, it requires experience and occupies more time than most writers of history and biography can, or should, bestow on such matters. Why not employ one of the experienced Museum copyists to transcribe such documents! The manuscripts could then be read by every one; and the time expended by the one copyist would be saved to the hundreds of readers following after him for generations.

The *Caledonian Mercury* announces the death of Mr. George Dunbar, Professor of Greek Literature in the University of Edinburgh. A number of candidates for the vacant professorship are already, we see, in the field;—and amongst the names we find that of Dr. William Smith,—whose Dictionaries of Greek and Roman Antiquities and of Biography are, as our readers know, precisely the kind of testimonial which is likely to leave his opponents little chance of success. Amongst other candidates mentioned, we find the names of Mr. Charles Macdonall, Dr. Schmitz, Prof. Blackie, the Rev. J. Hannah, and Mr. E. Kirkpatrick.—The continental papers give also some details of the death of M. Priessnitz, the founder of the cold-water cure, at Grafenberg, at the comparatively early age of fifty-two. His complaint appears to have been dropsy in the chest. He took a little orthodox medicine, at the instance of his friends: but absolutely refused to see a physician,—and, so far, died in the faith.—The foreign obituary of the week includes the name of Dr. Meinhold,—a name which will live in connexion with 'The Amber Witch,' and with the singular circumstances attending the reception of that powerful tale.

On Tuesday last Mr. Weld delivered a lecture 'On the Arctic Expeditions, particularly with reference to the Search for Sir John Franklin,'—before the Bank of England Literary Association, the Governor, Mr. Hankey, being in the chair. He adverted in strong terms to the lamentable circumstance of the Admiralty Expeditions having returned to England, long before their provisions were exhausted, without examining the open water discovered by Capt. Penny north of Wellington

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Channel,—which channel Capt. Austin had been specially instructed to search.—The lecture was illustrated by a large map, and by several drawings of great interest.

It is to be regarded as very fortunate that so much attention has been directed during the last twelve or eighteen months to the discussion of the principle of Limited Partnership Liability, or as it is called on the Continent—Partnership *en Commandite*. According to the present English laws of Partnership every member of a firm, whether active or passive, so long as he does not advertise his retirement in the *London Gazette*, is liable for the engagements of the concern to the whole extent of his fortune; and under the influence of such a law there cannot be any wonder that partnership engagements in this country are regarded with extreme dislike and suspicion as a means of employing the resources of persons who look to the investment of their capital as a principal means of support. The consequences may be seen on all hands. Men of enterprise, ingenuity, and character—but destitute of capital—cannot enter on the career which would be most beneficial at once to society and to themselves; and on the other hand masses of capital are reduced to a state of compulsory unprofitableness. In all countries, but especially in old countries, one of the most important ends of all commercial legislation should be, to unite in the most complete manner the capital and the enterprise of the community. There is strong reason to believe that our present law of Partnership imposes a formidable bar to the accomplishment of this great result. The *commandite* principle would remove that bar. A *commandite* partnership would limit the liability of what are called the "sleeping" partners to the amount of their declared interest in the affairs of the firm,—the acting or managing partner remaining liable, quite properly, to the whole extent of his fortune. Great care and ingenuity would be required in framing the act of Parliament under which the *commandite* system might be introduced into this country; but difficulties of that kind are not greater than obstacles of a similar nature which are surmounted every day. In the mean time, those of our readers who feel an interest in the subject may refer with great advantage to the Reports of 1850 and 1851, by Mr. Slaney's Committee, on the "Savings of the Middle and Working Classes."

It is well known that one of the points in the great Postal Reform on which Mr. Rowland Hill was least successful was, the re-arrangement of the rural post districts, with a view to doing away with delays, cross posts, and other anomalous abuses of the old system. Up to this time many of the bad features of the superseded mode of operation have continued to exist,—but we are glad to learn that some measures are now about to be taken, by authority from the Postmaster General, towards revising the rural districts and promoting the certainty and rapidity of communication by letter in out-of-the-way places.

In spite of telegraphs and express trains the Time Reform is not yet completely established. Many towns in the centre and west of England still refuse to count their days and hours by the meridian of Greenwich. Oxford, as might have been expected, prefers to lag behind. Nor will it surprise anybody to find Bath and Exeter in the list of places choosing their local right to keep in the rear of the great world's movement. It is more curious to see Bristol and Worcester adhere, at their great inconvenience, to the old system of computation. This evil, for an evil it undoubtedly is, should be put a stop to by Government. The trouble which may arise from it is not trifling. For example,—a child born in Bristol at five minutes to twelve on Monday night, national time, would be born on Tuesday morning according to the local reckoning; but which would be considered the true birthday, Monday or Tuesday, in a court of law? This is one uncertainty. Innkeepers may be indicted for late hours, shopkeepers for business during church service, and soon,—in which cases the same question would arise. All banking business, all travelling, and affairs of many other kinds are regulated by time. How absurd and inconvenient it is, for instance, that the new year will begin at the Exeter railway station a quarter of an hour before the old year goes out in the High Street! Letters written, bargains made, at the same instant of time, and in the same town, may be dated in different years! —There must be an end put to a practice which, so far from falling in with the growing demand for common standards all over the world, goes in deliberate search of a diversity that writes its marks from door to door, and enters into all the interests and spreads over all the business of the land.

The new monthly report of the Royal Zoological Society represents that Institution as in a most flourishing condition. The total number of visitors to the gardens during the current year, it appears, amounts to upwards of 659,000. The additions made to the menagerie in consequence of the dispersion of the late President's collection at Knowsley were said to include 123 specimens, of 62 species; and it was stated that Lord Derby had, with great kindness, preserved them there until the houses which have been expressly built for them were completed.—The report of the Council further states, that Mr. Gould has placed his beautiful collection of humming birds at the disposal of the Society for twelve months,—and it will consequently be thrown open to the visitors as well as to the Fellows of the Society during the whole of next season.

The Gold Question continues to expand itself into larger dimensions; and although it cannot be said that the accuracy of our knowledge is so complete as could be desired, still it is consolatory to know that some progress is made towards an ascertainment of the truth. One of the latest and most attractive contributors to the general fund in this respect is Mr. Wyld, the geographer; who has published a series of four maps of the gold regions of the world, accompanied by a useful and sensible pamphlet. Mr. Saunders appears as the publisher of what he calls an official map of the Australian gold country, founded principally on information derived from Mr. Hargraves — the original discoverer of the Bathurst treasures. In the mean time, the adventurous and speculative public at home have set vigorously to work to concoct gold mining companies of all degrees of tenuity. The Stock Exchange Lists are already encumbered with a host of foreign and unpronounceable names of projects intended to convey vivid anticipations of future riches: and prudent persons begin to advert with uneasiness to the manifestations of a wild spirit of adventure in undertakings of the class in question. The subject is one of growing importance; and we may take an early opportunity of referring to it in a form less cursory than the present.

The National Public School Society have been induced to make a few alterations in their scheme —slight in themselves, but calculated to remove some of the objections urged by "practical" men to it. The changes are intended chiefly to facilitate the entry of existing schools into the new organization. The resolution lately adopted by the Society declares, that schools already in existence may become free schools under the direction of their present or future managers, and receive a certain sum—to be named hereafter—per week for each scholar educated in them. Provided—1. That on inspection they are found in a satisfactory condition. 2. That "the inculcation of doctrinal religion" shall not take place in them between certain specified hours in the morning and afternoon. 3. That the attendance of the scholars on the "inculcation of doctrinal religion" shall not be compulsory. 4. That the "inculcation of doctrinal religion" shall not be a part of the duty of the teachers under this system. 5. That no part of the school payments derived from the rate shall be directly or indirectly applied to the "inculcation of doctrinal religion."—These changes of programme remove the national scheme still further from the municipal scheme,—and render a future combination of the two Manchester educational projects still less probable.

Somehow or other the people of this country are never tired of marvelling at the immensity of the volume of traffic which pours with a ceaseless torrent through the streets of London. The roar of Fleet Street and the blockade of London Bridge are themes of constant exultation to those enthusiastic natures who are fond of comparing what they call the realities of London with the mere pretences of other capitals. There certainly is no denying that the appearance of our great thoroughfares during ten or twelve hours of every day is one of that peculiar kind of facts which is not likely to be effaced from the memory of any person who has seen the state of things to which it refers. Until very lately the magnitude of the traffic through Temple Bar, for instance, or across London Bridge, has been rather a subject for vague wonder than a statistically ascertained result. The uncertainty, however, is now removed; and we can speak of the marvels in the precise language of arithmetic. Mr. Haywood, the surveyor of the City Sewers Commission, has had occasion to institute some inquiries connected with street pavements, and the traffic which passes over them; and from the tables of his report we will gather for the instruction and amusement of our readers a few facts. Suppose, now, that at eight o'clock in the morning of the 8th of July, 1850, a curious person had taken his post in front of Child's Banking-house at Temple Bar:—he would have seen pass by him in the course of the first hour, or up to nine o'clock, vehicles of all kinds to the number of 311;—during the next hour the influx of City people would have raised the number to 526;—and in the hour from ten to eleven o'clock the number would have become 704;—by twelve o'clock it would have reached 757;—by one o'clock 691;—at two 664.—At three the tide again turned; for then the City was sending forth the swarms it had swallowed up in the early hours of the day, and the result was 791;—at four it was 737;—at five 738;—at six 671;—at seven 537;—at eight 614;—and adding all these figures together the result is a total of 7,741 vehicles in twelve hours, or an average of 645 per hour, or more than 10 vehicles a minute: and if we suppose that the value of each vehicle and its contents should be only 50*l.*—certainly below the truth,—that would give us 500*l.* as the magnitude of the peripatetic wealth emerging every minute from beneath Temple Bar.—At London Bridge, however, the results are on a much more imposing scale. We will again suppose an observant spectator to have stationed himself midway on the Bridge, on the 23rd of July, 1850. During the hour from eight to nine o'clock in the morning, 680 vehicles of all kinds would have passed him,—during the succeeding hour the number would be almost doubled, say 1,128;—from ten to eleven o'clock there would be a further increase to 1,332, which appears to have been the maximum number of the twelve hours observed, with the exception of the hour from four to five o'clock, when the result given is 1,344. We observe in these maximum figures the same law as at Temple Bar,—namely, the immense increase of the traffic at the commencement and at the termination of City business. The total of the twelve hours' traffic on London Bridge was 13,099 vehicles, or an average of 1,091 per hour, or 18 per minute.—These facts are curious, but they are also useful. They warn us that unless we adopt vigorous measures to improve our facilities for street transit, we shall before long create nuisances and impediments of the most irritating and costly description; for in a metropolis like London, where time is money, it will never do to spend an hour every day in vain efforts to force a passage over London Bridge or through the congested arch of Temple Bar.

To the various other proposed and commenced improvements in London — railways, streets, squares, and terraces — we have now to add rumours of two new bridges across the Thames. A notice of motion is on the London Corporation books,—"That it be referred to the Bridge-house Estates Committee to cause to be surveyed the property running parallel with the Old Change down to the river side, and in a direct line with the eastern side of St. Paul's Churchyard, and to report to this Court the probable cost of a new street to be constructed in that direction, such street to be at least 60 feet wide; and also to procure an estimate of the cost of a new stone bridge across the Thames, to be communicated with by the

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suggested new street."—Rumour also states that the South-Western Railway Company are considering a project for throwing a new bridge across the Thames, as a free road for their passengers,—a liberal idea, the very announcement of which may assist in freeing the public from the obnoxious tolls of Waterloo and Hungerford Bridges.—While on the topic of metropolitan improvements, we may observe that the long contemplated alterations at Buckingham Gate are now in rapid progress,—and that the buildings in and about the new Victoria Street, leading from Belgrave Street to Westminster Abbey, are of such a character as to lead us to anticipate that the whole neighbourhood will in a short time be brought within the circle of respectable, if not absolutely fashionable, life.—When the Crystal Palace was new to the public eye, we ventured to predict that its pictorial and economical success would lead to a practical adoption in many quarters of its chief elements,—its materials of glass and iron,—perhaps, also, to some extent, of its forms. The prophecy is already fulfilled. Not only do we hear of greenhouses and orangeries being erected on the popular model,—but we find the model converted to still more general uses. A tailor's shop at Battle Bridge has just been opened, the front of which is a *fac-simile* of the elevation of the transept of the Crystal Palace! Here is a piece of architectural soaring which, we think, consigns to the list of "popular fallacies" the long-accepted verse asserting that "A tailor's goose will never fly."

We read in the *Daily News* that the trustees of the Ramsgate Harbour have purchased the life-boat which gained the prize recently offered, as our readers know, by the Duke of Northumberland. The price given for it is 250*l.* The *Daily News* urges other harbour trustees to follow this laudable example:—remarking on the paucity of our means for aiding in the preservation of shipwrecked persons, that there are only about ninety six life-preserving vessels on the whole extent of our rocky coast, and that about one half of these ninety-six are reported as unserviceable!

Our readers have more than once heard of the "Manchester Howard." Few men in a humble station of life have ever done more moral good for others than Thomas Wright:—work done without reference to self, and indeed at considerable sacrifice of personal means. For half a lifetime he has made the prisoner's cell his second home. Tied by the duties of his position to ordinary labour for ten or twelve hours a day, he yet contrived to steal from sleep and recreation a few hours daily for prison labours. He spent his Sundays always with the criminal and the outcast. He read to them—conversed with them—enlisted sympathy for them. His unpaid and simple eloquence wrought on many hearts;—many, deaf to the more formal appeals of chaplains and magistrates, were led by him to see the error of their ways. They gave him their confidence, and he approved himself their friend. Wiser than those who think themselves the children of light, he seldom or never despaired of the criminal. What he believed in as a possibility, he lent all the energies of his nature to achieve: and through his stedfast friendliness and unremitted efforts in their behalf many poor creatures of both sexes have been recalled to society from the gates of civil and moral death. Who can set a price on the labours of such a man! Two years ago it was proposed to raise a fund to relieve his old age from the drudgeries of his present situation; and we are glad to see from the Manchester papers that this suggestion is again occupying public attention in the locality. A small subscription would purchase a comfortable annuity for a man already sixty-six years old; and such an act of bounty will be a credit to a wealthy city like Manchester.

The *North British Daily Mail* announces that a project for establishing a new convict settlement at New Caledonia, in the Southern Archipelago, has for some time past occupied the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and that measures to this end are now under consideration. The island, says the same organ, is described by those who have visited it in whaling ships as presenting resources of a most valuable character,—teeming with vegetation, and abounding in varieties of timber of the best description, suitable alike for ship-building and other useful purposes;—whilst the climate is, at the same time, said to be delightfully salubrious, and such harbours as are already known are described as being safe and capacious.

The recent Report of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland states, that the negotiations long pending with the Treasury have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion; and by the deed which has been drawn up and signed, the Society has made over to the Crown, as national property, the whole collection of antiquities formed by them during the last seventy years, to form the nucleus of a National Archæological Museum for Scotland. The Treasury have, on their part, vested the curatorship of the collection permanently in the hands of the Society's office-bearers; and become bound, so soon as the new gallery on the Mound shall be finished, to fit up the entire suite of rooms occupying the north and west sides of the Royal Institution buildings on the upper floor for the accommodation of the Society's collections and meetings.—The Secretary expressed a hope that, as the collection will be placed on the same footing as any other national museum, Scotsmen may be induced to deposit there some of the numerous valuable antiquities at present scattered through private collections, and liable to all the vicissitudes by which such objects are so frequently lost.

It is stated from Helsingfors, in the Grand Duchy of Finland, that Dr. Everard Groenblad, Professor of Philology in that Imperial University, has just made the discovery, in the Library of the Senate, of several Palimpsests and other manuscripts, containing a great number of fragments of Latin authors. All the manuscripts are of the fourteenth century; and Dr. Groenblad is engaged in restoring the writing of the Palimpsests, by means of chemical agencies.

It may be of use to some of our readers to know that the Belgian police have just issued an order to prevent the landing of English travellers in Belgium unless provided with passports duly signed by the consular agents in this country. Hitherto, the rule in this respect has been somewhat vague,—Foreign Office passports being allowed free passage without the counter signature. The rule is now made absolute.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A POPULAR LECTURE on the ADVANCEMENT of AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY, daily, at Two o'clock, by J. H. Pepper, Esq.—LECTURE on WARD'S NEW SUBMARINE LAMP.—PRIZE MODEL of Mr. MECHI'S FARMERY at TIPTREE HALL explained.—A NEW LECTURE on the HISTORY of the HARP, by F. Chatterton, Esq., until the 19th inst. only, at Eight in the Evenings, with Accompaniments on ERARD'S GREAT EXHIBITION HARP, and Vocal Illustrations by Miss Blanche Younge, R.A. Music.—LECTURE by Dr. Bachhoffner on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION.—NUMEROUS PRIZE MODELS, WORKS of ART, &c. from the Great Exhibition will be explained by Mr. Crisp.—OPTICAL EFFECTS in DISSOLVING VIEWS, MICROSCOPE, CHROMATROPE, &c.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five, and every evening, except Saturday, from Seven till half-past Ten.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—*Dec.* 3.—W. Hopkins, Esq., President, in the chair.—T. A. Tagg, Esq., the Rev. H. M. De la Condamine, and W. B. Beaumont, Esq. were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read.—'On a curious Fossil Fern from Cape Breton, by C. J. F. Bunbury, Esq.—This peculiar specimen, exhibiting in its general appearance some resemblance to a Lycopodiaceous plant, bearing leaves proper to that genus, and the fronds of a true fern, is regarded by the author as probably being a fern with a creeping stem or rhizome, such as *Polypodium incanum*, *P. lycopodioides*, &c., so commonly seen in moist tropical climates, creeping like ivy over mossy rocks and old trunks of trees. The detailed description, however, of this interesting form, and the comparison of its structure with that of other plants, cannot be followed out in the absence of figures. The author noticed the interest attached to this fern as being one of the exceedingly few instances in which fronds are still preserved in their natural relation to the stem. Indeed, as a *coal* fern exhibiting this condition, the specimen is perhaps unique.

'On the Pennine and Craven Faults, and on some of the Palæozoic Rocks of Westmoreland and Yorkshire,' by the Rev. A. Sedgwick.—This paper commenced with a general account of the direction and characters of the two great faults or breaks known to geologists as the Pennine and Craven Faults, which intersect one another near Borrodale and Stanemoor: stress being laid on the complicated nature of the disturbances along the "carboniferous" chains, at the bases of which these great breaks occur. Both faults were produced near the end of the "Palæozoic" period; but the fact of the magnesian conglomerate, near Brough, having been tilted by the action of the Pennine fault, in the same manner as the carboniferous beds on which they rest, whilst the same conglomerates, near Kirby Stephen, rest almost horizontally on the edge of the beds which have been tilted by the action of the Craven fault, shows that they were not strictly contemporaneous, the Craven fault being the older of the two. The older rocks were solidified and elevated before the existence of the carboniferous limestone, and before the epochs of the Craven and Pennine faults. These lines of fault were probably not so much produced by well-defined axes of elevation, as by unequal pressure, produced by a very uneven surface of the old strata, urged upwards by new forces of elevation, not acting on single lines, but affecting large tracts of country at the same moment. It is to be remarked that the breaks of the carboniferous strata along these lines of fault do not always appear to pass downwards into the Cambrian and Silurian strata on which the carboniferous mountains rest. The carboniferous limestone of this district (exhibiting considerable variations of mineralogical character, and at Smardale Beck containing a broad intercalated band of ripple-marked red sandstone of great interest) appears to have been deposited partly over and partly abutting against an ancient ridge, formed of the contorted and elevated older rocks, (and partly, perhaps, subaërial, partly submarine), striking nearly in the actual direction of the Craven fault. Hence, at a subsequent period of elevation, this ancient ridge may not only have mechanically produced the fractures of the Craven fault, but also defined its direction. The older rocks, however, were probably rent asunder in many places along the lines of disturbance which produced this fault, and some of its great cross-fractures have affected the older rocks as much as the overlying carboniferous beds, giving rise to a series of lateral valleys,—such as those on both sides of Ingleborough and those between Clapham and Horton in Ribblesdale:—and it is to these lateral valleys that we owe our knowledge of the series of old and highly inclined rocks that form the base of the carboniferous chain. From the detailed account of several sections thus obtained, it appears that the Coniston limestone and Coniston flagstone, which form the base of the fossiliferous slates of Westmoreland, may be clearly traced from Ravenstonedale through the upper part of the Rother, across the valley of the Dent, and again from ravines above Ingleton to Horton in Ribblesdale. This conclusion is based both on the mineral character of the several groups, and on their fossils. Finally, the author states he now returns to his first published opinion; viz., the Coniston limestone is the equivalent of the Bala limestone, and not of the Caradoc sandstone; but this question, as well as some other points of classification and nomenclature, he reserves to a future communication.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—*Dec.* 4.—Viscount Mahon, President, in the chair.—E. Phillips, Esq. was elected a Fellow.—The President exhibited lithographs of large stones found in the north of Scotland on which were various ancient devices and emblems. They had been transmitted by Mr. Stuart, of Aberdeen, in the hope that some explanation of them might be afforded by the Society before they were issued as a publication by the Spalding Club. They were clearly of different ages, and a few of them were druidical.—Mr. E. B. Price furnished an account of two very early grave-stones in an old London church, of which no notice had been taken by Stow or any other authority. They belonged to the early part of the fifteenth century; and one was of

an ecclesiastic, the other of a person in trade of the name of Jambe, whose crest was a leg.—A letter was read from Mr. Wright regarding further explorations at the ancient Roman Pharos near Dover, and promising that as other remains were brought to light he would communicate them to the Society. The same gentleman laid upon the table the Diary of Patrick Ruthven; regarding whom and the Gowry Conspiracy the Treasurer had read a paper late in the last session. This Diary must have contained curious matter; but none of it was read,—and we suppose it was reserved for a future evening. Some of the latest of the entries were dated 1629; and it is well known that at that date Patrick Ruthven was maintaining himself in London by professing medicine and conjuring. He suffered great hardships; and it is to be concluded that the manuscript would supply particulars of his wants and privations.—The principal reading of the evening was confined to a narrative, by Lord Londesborough, of certain excavations on his newly acquired property in the East Riding of Yorkshire during the month of October last. His Lordship superintended the operations with great zeal,—but was not rewarded by any very new or important discoveries. A spear-head or two (of the stone period), an armlet with pins of bronze and gold, and a drinking cup (we presume of stone), were all that he procured to add to his Museum. About twenty skeletons were exhumed,—most of them belonging to the time preceding the Roman occupation; but one or two were considerably later,—showing that the same burial-places continued to be used for some centuries. In one instance a cist was opened, over which was placed so heavy a stone that seven men could not remove it, and it was at last raised by a triangle and tackle.

Entomological.—*Dec.* 1.—J. O. Westwood, Esq., President, in the chair.—G. Guyon, and T. Dossetor, Esqs. were elected Members, and J. Dutton, Esq. a subscriber.—Mr. Douglas mentioned that one of the case-bearing larvæ found on *Origanum vulgare*, exhibited at a former meeting, had produced *Gelechia subocellea*. Mr. Douglas exhibited *Argynnis Lathonia*, *Diphthera Orion* and *Adela cuprella*:—three rare Lepidoptera, all taken near Hastings, and from the collection of H. Cooke, Esq.—Mr. A. White read a note from Mr. George, Jun., stating that he had lately, at night, found a *Goerius olens*, which appeared phosphorescent; but on taking it home he no longer perceived it to be luminous. Mr. Stephens was of opinion that the Goerius had been surprised in the act of attacking or feeding on a Scolopendra, from which it had detached luminous particles.—Mr. Curtis agreed with this view; and added, that he knew from his own experience that the favourite food of this beetle was earwigs:—a matter which growers of dahlias and other plants attacked by those insects might turn to account. As bearing on the subject before the meeting, Mr. Smith mentioned that he once saw a *Creophilus maxillosus*, which had been feeding on decaying matter in an old crab-shell, covered with luminous particles, doubtless derived from the decomposed crab.—Mr. White exhibited a spider brought from the Arctic Regions by Mr. Ede, R.N. It was closely allied to *Lycosa saccata*, (Fab.), not identical; and he proposed for it the name of *L. Baffini*. He also exhibited *Tipula glomerata*, (Walker), and a Cheironomus, both from the same locality, and remarked, that the exposure of the eggs of these Diptera to the most intense cold for several months without destroying their vitality was a wonderful instance of the power of insect life. Judging from the variety of insects brought from the Polar regions by different persons, he believed that the number of them there was much greater than is usually supposed. Mr. Curtis observed, that Sir James Ross had, as an experiment, caused a caterpillar to be frozen and thawed several times without injuring its vitality.—The Secretary read a note from Mr. H. W. Newman containing further remarks on the Bombinatrices,—and re-affirming that the males never return to the nest after they have once left it.—The President read a portion of his Report 'On the Entomological Productions in the Great Exhibition,' showing from the examples therein how much society is indebted to insect labours.—The Secretary read an abstract of Dr. Leconte's memoir 'On the Pselaphidæ of the United States,' published in the 'Boston Journal of Natural History.'—The Secretary read extracts of a letter from Mr. Bates, dated Para, 8th Oct., in which he stated his intention not to return to England at present; but to explore a branch of the Amazon not yet visited by any naturalist.

Institution of Civil Engineers.—*Dec.* 9.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'An Account of the Works on the Birmingham Extension of the Birmingham and Oxford Junction Railway,' by Mr. C. B. Lane.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Royal Academy, 8.—Anatomical Lecture.
— Chemical, 8.
— Statistical, 8.
— British Architects, 8.
Tues. Linnean, 8.
— Pathological, 7.—Meeting of Council.
— Civil Engineers 8.—'On the Alluvial Formations, and the Local Changes, of the South Eastern Coast of England. First Section, River Thames to Portland,' by Mr. J. B. Redman.
Wed. Geological, half-past 8.—'On the Causes of the Changes of Climate at different Geological Epochs,' by W. Hopkins, Esq., Pres. G.S.—'Notice of the occurrence of Fossil Foot-tracks and the remains of a Batrachian Reptile in the Old Red Sandstone of Morayshire,' by Capt. Brickenden and Dr. Mantell.
— Society of Arts, 8.—Jacob Bell, Esq., M.P. 'On Chemical and Pharmaceutical Processes and Products.'
Thurs. Numismatic, 7.
— Royal, half-past 8.—'On the Structure and Connection of the Valves of the Human Heart,' by W. S. Savory.
Sat. Medical, 8.

FINE ARTS

Fine-Art Gossip.—After the distribution of premiums at the Royal Academy on Wednesday evening last, Sir C. L. Eastlake delivered the biennial lecture to the students,—the first which he has given in his capacity of President. Form, as the basis of representation either of the actual or of the ideal, manifested by the power of *delineation*, constituted the main subject of his discourse. An æsthetical view was taken of the proportions, quantities, contrasts, balance and harmony of lines that go to make up the aggregate of forms.—This is a course more practically useful than a mere disquisition on the abstract principles of taste.—Illustrations derived from the page of Greek poetry, as well as from the Art-examples of the Middle Ages, enriched and explained the principles which the President enunciated.

We see it announced in the *Sheffield Times* that the ladies of that town, who have lately interested themselves in getting up a testimonial to the author of 'The World before the Flood,' have given the proceeds of their subscription—60*l.*—to the School of Design, for the foundation of an annual prize to be called the Montgomery Medal, and to be contended for by the students of that institution.

Prof. Von Eyken, of the Brussels Academy of Fine Arts, has, we are informed, received orders from the government for ornamenting the Church de la Chapelle with frescoes,—and has begun his work with the Trinity Chapel. Prof. Von Eyken intends to combine in his picture three different modes of fresco:—the encaustic, the new Munich method of the so-called water-glass colour (*Wasser-glas*), and one discovered by himself.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—TUESDAY, 23rd of DECEMBER, will be repeated Handel's 'MESSIAH.'—Vocalists: Miss Dolby, Miss Birch, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. H. Phillips. The Orchestra, the most extensive in Exeter Hall, will consist of (including 16 double basses) nearly 700 Performers.—Tickets, 3s.; Reserved, 5s.; Central Area, numbered seats, 10s. 6d. each; at the Society's Office, 6, in Exeter Hall.

MISS DOLBY has the honour to announce that the LAST of her ANNUAL SERIES of THREE SOIRÉES MUSICALES will take place at her residence, 2, Hinde-street, Manchester-square, on TUESDAY, the 16th instant, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Miss DOLBY will be assisted by eminent Vocal and Instrumental Artistes.—Tickets, Half-a-guinea each, to be had of Miss Dolby only.

MISS KATE HICKSON has the honour to announce that she will give a GRAND EVENING CONCERT, at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on TUESDAY, December 16, in Aid of the Funds of the Hungarian Committee and of the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland. The following eminent artistes have generously promised their valuable assistance:—Vocalists—Mesdames Louisa Pyne, W. Weiss, Kate Hickson, Pyne, Allein, Stoffregni and Poole; Messrs. Wrighton, Swift and Weiss. Instrumentalists — Pianoforte, Mdlle. Coulon, Salaman and Cross; violin, M. Remenyi; violoncello, M. F. de Munck; concertina, Mr. R. Blagrove. Conductor, Mr. Charles Salaman. Reserved seats, 7s. 6d.; single tickets, 5s. each—may be had at all the principal music warehouses and libraries, and of Miss Hickson, 11, Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square.

MUSICAL WINTER EVENINGS, WILLIS'S ROOMS.—Subscriptions for the Six Concerts, 1l. 1s.; Members of the Musical Union, and persons distinguished in Art, Literature and Science, 1l. 1s.; Single Admission, 7s. To begin at half-past 8 and end at 11, once a fortnight, on the Thursdays, January 15th, 29th, February 12th, 26th, and March 11th and 25th. Season tickets transferable only in families. The programmes will include every variety of chamber music, from a Sonata to a Sestetto, composed at various periods of the art; also Solos, executed by the most eminent talent; and no exertion will be spared to render these evenings both instructive and interesting to the amateur. Prospectuses to be had at all the principal musicsellers.
J. ELLA, Director.

'THE RECORD of 1851' will be sent to the residences of members of the Musical Union during the present week.

Sacred Harmonic Society.—*Haydn's 'Seasons.'*—We owe many thanks to the *Sacred Harmonic Society* for affording us our first opportunity of hearing Haydn's second *Cantata* adequately performed. When we have stated that chorus and band were both better than we recollect them to have been in any former first performance given by the *Sacred Harmonic Society*,—and have named Miss Birch, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Phillips as the singers,—we shall best show our value of the performance by offering some considerations respecting the work, which more strongly than ever yesterday week appeared to us to indicate its final place among the compositions of our masters in music.

How far a Pastoral of such length as 'The Seasons' can be rendered attractive by any one—how far a series of musical movements describing shower and sunshine, seed-time and harvest, in which the human figures are accessories to the landscape, can escape monotony—seems to have never been thoroughly reasoned out. The powers of descriptive music are not decided, as some have fancied, by our acceptance of Handel's 'Israel in Egypt' as the most sublime specimen of choral art extant. There, the elements of supernatural protection and menace, and of human faith and fear, enter into most of the pictures of plague and portent. We are there dealing not merely with "fire mingled with the hail" which "ran along upon the ground,"—but also with the Pillar of Cloud and the Pillar of Fire, with the "people led forth like sheep," with "Pharaoh's chariots and his host," with "Miriam the prophetess,"—in short, with human action and passion, around which such great marvels assemble themselves in colossal framework. It may be further presumed that a gallery filled with even the choicest landscape specimens of Rosa and Claude, of Cuyp and Ruysdael and Hobbima might be found to lack variety: while we must observe how at once the interest of the landscape seems to brighten and expand (if not for the artist for the general visitor) supposing it to be named "*Cleopatra* on the Cydnus," or "*Sappho* on her rock," or "*Juliet* at her balcony," or to bear even such a less poetical title as the embarkation of this Saint or of the other Elector to join his fleet!—If mere descriptions of Nature, then, when too largely offered in Painting, pall upon the many (in part because the best art pictorial sinks so low beneath the every-day sublimities of sky, mountain, and river), how much are the chances narrowed for Music, of which in description the field is so much smaller, the language so much more vague, the colour so much more arbitrary!—It might have been thought that few effects were more easy to imitate than that of storm. Yet often as this has been tried in music, we know of but two instances in which the attempt has thoroughly succeeded; the one, of course, being in Beethoven's 'Pastorale,' the other being the introduction to the third act of Cherubini's 'Medea.'

But whether descriptive music be decided to be wide or narrow in its walk, rich or poor in its matter,—'The Seasons' displays Haydn as monotonous, and with all his superior orchestral resources, conventional, if he be compared with Handel. Measured against the purely pictorial music of 'L'Allegro' and 'Acis and Galatea' (leaving 'Israel' out of the question, for reasons given) the airs and choruses of 'The Seasons' will appear trite, superficially pleasing, and antiquated. Great luxury of dress is bestowed upon ideas so well known even in Haydn's time as hardly to be worth

such solicitude of attire. With few exceptions, the principal *motivi* of 'The Seasons' had been indicated in 'The Creation,' and there treated with more nature and greater vigour. It is curious, and not explicable on the score of the master's age, that one, whose instrumental writings contain such* a treasury of varied thoughts, fancies, humours, and passages of melody, should in his two great choral works confine himself so exclusively to a pleasing and cheerful elegance in which symmetry is more remarkable than freshness of conception. To us the great composer of sacred music is to be found, not in these *Cantatas*, popular though 'The Creation' has been,—nor even in his 'Passione,' unduly as that work has been lauded, owing, in part, it may be fancied, to what may be called the scenic accessories of its production;—but in portions of his 'Stabat Mater,' where a dignity and passion reveal themselves which are to be found in none other of Haydn's works.

After having observed that the strongest choruses of 'The Seasons' seem to us the first and third in 'Spring,' (the *Storm* chorus being clever rather than fearful), and that the best song in the Oratorio is that exquisite *largo* 'Distressful Nature,' ('Summer')—a word of characterization remains to be added in recognition of the skilful finish bestowed on every part of this *Cantata*. Let us repeat, that the polish, the soundness, the thorough science, the various elaboration of details in orchestration belong to that high school of Art in which the presence of "school" gives to the werk a permanent value apart from those belonging to its choice of subject and invention in design. Let the critic, whether he be transcendental or antiquarian, melodist or harmonist, judge as he will of Haydn's conceptions,—regarding the manner of their utterance he can but feel respect and approval. The work is the work of a true artist.

A word remains to be said concerning the version of 'The Seasons' used by the Sacred Harmonic Society.—When Prof. Taylor's improved edition of the *Cantata* was issued we commented on the singular examples of harshness put forth by an improver who himself was a singer, and of bathos suffered to pass by one whose literary pretensions are higher than those of persons usually employed in similar tasks.—On returning to the work, our increased sense of its insufficiency calls on us to repeat and to extend our former strictures.—It is true, that Prof. Taylor has brought in lines and half-lines from 'The Seasons,' but this is done on a false principle. It is no satisfactory explanation, that the original German was adapted and altered from Thomson's well-known Pastoral. Here the poet is subjected to a double violence. Whether the passage thus treated be taken from a Psalm by David or from a soliloquy by Shakspeare, or from one of Milton's resonant descriptions, its grandeur and completeness make the maiming process more piteous. We can pass by a building for which a common ruin has furnished the materials, in ignorance of its Vandal origin; but let scraps of a Parthenon frieze be wrought into the wall—and the descerating hand is unpleasantly forced upon us. In those parts of Prof. Taylor's work where no bits from Thomson could be appropriated, the new version is little better than the old one; sometimes exhibiting needless discrepancies betwixt the verbal and musical phrases, sometimes replacing ancient by modern fustian. Who, for instance,—unless he were a violin-maker—could gather in the Bacchanal Chorus with dance ('Autumn') any idea of

the brisk awakening viol

from such a hunger-bitten piece of pedantry as

The string, too, is speaking,

—which, further, as an arrangement of syllables to be sung quick, could not well be more cacophonous?

Time is not wasted in the above minute criticism. The value of many a precious foreign work is so seriously depreciated by the English text with which it is mated as to render infrequent the performance of that which might otherwise be on every one's lips. Whether there still be life enough in 'The Creation' and 'The Seasons' to make a re-arrangement of the text of both worth undertaking is a question:—neither, however, has yet beee favoured with words such as poetical singers can deliver, or a cultivated audience listen to, with pleasure.

* The idolators of Mozart will hardly admit that in this respect Haydn was only surpassed—nay, only equalled—by Beethoven. But such is our conviction. On confining our minds to the inventions of Haydn's Quartetts and Symphonies, without reference to the manner in which they are set forth, the amount of variety disclosed is amazing. In Mozart's instrumental works we are penetrated by the fascination of the master,—in Haydn's, by the freshness and vigour of the first thoughts.

THURSDAY CONCERTS.—These differ from the Wednesday Concerts in the following particulars. There is no attempt at an orchestra. There is a very good madrigal choir, including the best voices from the Covent Garden chorus. There is a glee-party, consisting of Miss L. Pyne, Miss Dolby, Messrs. Swift and Whitehouse. In place of such players as M. Thalberg and Herr Ernst, we had at the first concert M. Székély and Herr Engelke, a violoncellist. From this, it will be evident that the advantage of this new entertainment over that directed by Mr. Stammers is small, if any, as regards materials. The *programme* of Thursday was in no respect more purpose-like or coherent than those of the Wednesday Concerts. Wilbye and H. Smart, Converso and Wallace, Mendelssohn and Blewitt, Nile melodies and 'In this old Chair' make up an *olla* not fit, at all events, for Exeter Hall, which implies a very large audience,—and which demands feature, speciality and worth in the performances that are to assemble and retain monster gatherings.—Cordially as all the public favourites who appeared were received, the aimlessness of the Concert appeared to be felt,—and as a characteristic must be dealt with and amended if the Thursday entertainments are to take place among the musical Londoner's pleasures.—One appearance in the book of the words for the evening was new and full of promise. This was, the musical score of the National Anthem, in order that such of the audience as were disposed to join chorus might do so according to their voices, in harmony, not unisonally. Fifteen years ago, the printer would have had his labour for his pains.

HAYMARKET.—The novel 'Mdlle. de la Seiglière,' by M. Jules Sandeau, as adapted by M. Regnier for the *Théâtre Français*, has been transferred to the English stage by Mr. Benjamin Webster, under the title of 'The Man of Law.' The text of the drama has been somewhat loosely rendered; and on repetition, the performance will gain by considerable compression of the dialogue. Nevertheless, as acted on Tuesday—the night of its production—the play was very efficient. Mr. Webster was the hero, and as *Destournelles*, the lawyer, acted with admirable *finesse*. In this respect he was equalled by Mrs. Stirling in the part of the intriguing *Baroness de Vaubert*. The playing of these two ensured the success of a piece that depended mainly on its characterization. Not that this drama is deficient in plot;—for, in fact, it contains a large fund of story,—the details of which appear simple from their clever arrangement. The interest is based on that chapter of the Code Napoléon which provides that if property be given to a stranger on the supposition of the death of the heir, it must be restored to that heir on its being discovered that he is alive. An estate supposed to have been originally the inheritance of the *Marquis de la Seiglière* (Mr. Lambert) has been confiscated during the Revolution, and purchased by a plebeian proprietor. He subsequently, induced by the arts of the Baroness, made gift of it, under colour of restitution, to the Marquis,—a man unlikely to study legal instruments or codes, and wholly surrendered up to hunting and other material pleasures. The Baroness proposes to effect a marriage between her brother, *Raoul, Count de Beaulieu* (Mr. Leigh Murray), and the daughter of the Marquis, *Hélène de la Seiglière* (Miss A. Vining),—while the latter is the object of attachment to the lawyer, Destournelles, by whom the arrangement has been brought about. Destournelles is rejected, and conceives plans of revenge. These the return of *Bernard* (Mr. Howe),—the son of the proprietor, who has been reported as killed at the battle of Moskowa—is calculated to facilitate. The lawyer adopts him as his client, and takes legal steps for the recovery of the estate. But the Baroness outwits the lawyer;—receiving the claimant with such an air of courtesy, that he is induced to remain as guest where he is really host, and falls in love with the betrothed Hélène. The Baroness interferes to prevent the consequences, by disclosing her position. The generous Bernard determines on self-sacrifice and instant departure. The lawyer, however, is not to be baffled. He proceeds with his legal measures, though unauthorized by Bernard,—and by means of these so works on the Marquis that the latter willingly consents to his daughter's marriage with the rightful heir, notwithstanding his plebeian birth.—Another trick in the game, however, is gained by the Baroness. She exposes the nature of the transaction to Hélène; who for a moment is alienated from Bernard, until it appears that while Destournelles had been occupied in urging on the writ of ejectment, he himself had been to a notary and had executed a deed of gift.—The Baroness redeems herself at the end, by presenting to Destournelles the appointment of a judgeship which but for his own machinations he would have received at the commencement of the drama. It will readily be perceived that a story like this is full of dramatic situations;—and when we add, that each is elaborated with the utmost skill and care, we have adduced reasons sufficient for the success achieved on the first night's performance of the play. As we have said, judicious abridgment will render it still more attractive.

PRINCESS'S.—Miss Frankland has appeared in the part of *Portia*, in 'The Merchant of Venice;' —and confirmed our suspicion as to her want of elocutionary power for the higher dramatic characters. She proved unequal to the speech on the trial,—but the lighter scenes were enacted with grace. Mr. Charles Kean in *Shylock* showed recent study. In many respects his performance was a great improvement on his former reading.

OLYMPIC.—On Monday Mr. Hoskins, late of Sadler's Wells, made his first appearance at this theatre. His accession must be looked on as a valuable addition to the company. The part of *Frank Finish*, in the farce of 'Plots for Petticoats,' was that selected for the occasion; and in this, as an American gentleman, he was as humorously eccentric as could well be wished. He rattled, swaggered and boasted in a "go-a-head" fashion that kept the house in perpetual mirth.

A new actress also has appeared here—Mrs. Lingham. She is well practised evidently,—but seemingly deficient in the more intellectual points of acting. We must, however, reserve our opinion for a better acquaintance. The character of the *Duchess of Torrenueva*, in Planché's play of 'Faint Heart never won Fair Lady,' was perhaps not well suited to her style. We doubt her fitness for juvenile parts.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Mr. Phelps last Saturday performed *Sir Pertinax Macsycophant*, in 'The Man of the World,' with great success. He manages the Scotch accent with facility and effect.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Many besides ourselves will regret to find the name of Miss Catherine Hayes added to the list of engagement-breakers. From American papers, however, which have been forwarded to us, we learn that she has thrown up her contract with Mr. Beale, who had engaged her to an American manager; and that she intends henceforth to give concerts on her own account. The reason alleged is, the inadequacy of the sum paid her—600*l.* a month, besides all expenses of herself and party—compared with the gains presumed to be reaped by the English "farmer of her talent." We will accept the above statement, which is put forward by her partizans, without meeting or qualifying it by counter-statements current on this side of the water,—simply remarking that even supposing the sum of a clear 7,000*l.* a year to have proved a bad bargain,—we cannot call such a breach of contract by any name save one. By similar actions and transactions artists drive managements to that very chicanery by which they often

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suffer so cruelly, and which contributes its quota to keep art low,—and we are sorry when the party exhibiting them is a countrywoman. The remarks offered last week regarding the causes of the *Orchestral Society's* dissolution acquire double force in such a case as this.—The American journals announce that Mdlle. Aiboni is expected in the United States.

The Glee and Madrigal party singing throughout England appear to have met with no ordinary encouragement,—the taste for this old-fashioned English music having apparently suffered little by our having fraternized with the great foreign instrumental and operatic composers so liberally and warmly as we have done of late. So far from it, a correspondent at Leeds invites us to chronicle the *second* year's existence of the "Leeds Madrigal and Motett Society," which is directed by Mr. W. Spark. In the first year of its existence," continues the writer," three public concerts were given by its members,—which were most successful. On Wednesday evening last the first concert of the present season was given by the full chorus of the Society, assisted by Mrs. A. Newton, from the London concerts, and Mr. Hemingway, a well-known bass, formerly of the Leeds parish Church, but now of the Durham Choir."—So far as the above goes, it is satisfactory. We would fain, however, see such local establishments independent of "stars" from the London concerts or the Cathedral Choirs of other towns. If our *Royal Academy of Music* did its work, there should be in every town local professors sufficiently accomplished to take the lead on all such occasions.

Music seems to be making for itself a comfortable and sensible home at the *Whittington Club*: at which the performances are now frequent, and for the most part in matter interesting. On Wednesday last, Mr. Perry's 'Belshazzar's Feast' was to be performed.—How strange would it be if this association, with its modest resources, were to shame the City Companies with their luxurious revenues, and prove, what some among them might long since so gracefully have proved—a rallying point for English music!

Now is the time when the sleepless, the studious, the sorrowful, the sick, and the solitary may well be driven by the torment of "the Waits" to wish that they were living in Cologne; since we observe by a recent paragraph in the *Times* that the police in the City of the Three Kings

> has issued a notice to all street musicians, street bands, and exhibitors of animals with musical accompaniments, that "vilely sounding" instruments, or instruments out of tune, are henceforth prohibited. Foreigners who thus outrage the ears of the public will be turned out of the city; natives will have their licences taken away. They must provide new instruments or repair the old ones, and be provided with a certificate from a mender or maker that such repair has been undertaken.

Some such measure of alleviation is wanted in London just now. It is a wonder how the night-serenaders who come in with Advent manage to perpetuate the old abominable tradition of their performances; since one might have thought that, with one hard winter after another, a few at least of the old false notes must have "dropped off." Such, however, is not the case;—our London street-melodies at this "hallowed and gracious time" may still be commended as a curiosity to those who like ourselves have speculated on national airs as vitiated by national mal-treatment in execution.

A costly trinket is described by the French journals as having been sent by Mr. Lumley to Mdlle. Wagner. We have since heard that she will appear at *Her Majesty's Theatre* in 1852.—Meanwhile, letters from "old subscribers," written some days since in Paris, lament over the state of Italian opera there, as having been most unsatisfactory even before the breaking out of this last revolution, which will hardly tend to increase the musical brilliancy of the winter. On the eve of the *coup d'état*, Signor Guasco appeared in 'Ernani' without producing any great sensation. Mdlle. Cruvelli was the *Elvira*; but the advertisement of the approaching appearance of Madame Frezzolini would seem to indicate that the golden age of the younger singer's popularity is already past in France. Indeed, we see not how (especially in troublous times like these) the Italian Opera of Paris is to maintain itself without first rate artists or a composer of striking originality. Letters from Frankfort, which may be relied on, state that the re-appearance of Madame Sontag at the Haymarket is contingent on the production there of a new opera by Meyerbeer,—probably, the often-talked of 'Camp de Silésie.' If Mr. Lumley can secure such a novelty as this in addition to Mdlle. Wagner (supposing the latter to be the great artist described to us), Mr. Gyo will have to be on the alert.

We learn by correspondence from St. Petersburgh that His Imperial Highness the Czar declines to endanger his crown by permitting his nobility and gentry to see 'Le Prophète,' for which opera Madame Grisi had studied the part of *Fides*.—Signor Ronconi is said to be the "star" of the Russian winter.

From what we can gather, M. Limnander's second opera, 'Le Château de la Barbe Bleue,' produced at the *Opéra Comique* on the eve of Tuesday week's revolution, cannot be called a success. The same strain after the effects of grand-opera as was remarked by us in M. Limnander's 'Les Monténégrins' seems to be repeated in his second essay. The *libretto*, too, appears to be more monstrous than usual. Fancy a niece of our James the Second called *Miss Fidélia de Lancastre*, who is located at Madras, and has the bad repute of an ogress, who makes away with divers husbands—such reputation being merely a screen for political projects! Such is M. St. Georges' newest heroine.

A letter from Turin has been politely forwarded to us, by which it would seem that there is still some musical warmth, if not life, in the Piedmontese capital. "During the past season," says the writer, "we had nothing very remarkable — two novelties, a pretty *opera buffa* composed by one of the young Counts Litta of Milan,—simple music, gay, and passably original,—an opera by Ricci, 'I due Ritratti,' sufficiently mediocre,—and for known works, 'Luisa Miller,' that admirable work by Verdi,—one of his best works, and which would suit Mario perfectly. For the coming winter we are to have as first opera, 'Camoens,' by *Maestro* Sanelli. This composer, though still young, has introduced himself in Italy by two operas, 'Le Fornaretto' and 'Luisa Strozzi,'—and bids fair to take the field as Verdi's rival. I have heard 'Camoens,' and it seems to me to contain excellent things. After 'Camoens' will be given 'Zampa' as an *opera di ripiego*,—then, 'Nicolo de Lapi' by Schira,—lastly, 'Robert,' to close the season. The *corps* is good. The De Giuli produces a great effect here, where she has already sung. Beaucardé you know; he is now very popular in Italy. The baritone Ferri belongs to the better order of singers. He has expression, a fresh, extensive, and strong voice,—very tremulous, however,—and is a handsome, heavy-ish man, making much effect here, and making a great noise!—which last has become indispensable in Italy."

The Committee of Renters have undertaken the entire re-decoration of the interior of Drury Lane theatre,—which comes into Mr. Bunn's possession this day; and some time ago they invited the competition of artists, who accordingly sent in designs and estimates. The plans selected are those of Mr. Benjamin Hurwitz. To him their execution is entrusted,—and he will have but a brief time for the performance of a very heavy task.

The Lord Chamberlain has commenced a crusade against the Christmas Pantomimes. His Lordship, it would seem, has been informed that in these favourite drolleries the clowns do not always abide by the principle recommended in Hamlet—"Let your clowns say no more than is set down for them." On the contrary, they say—and do—many things not seriously entered in the "copy" submitted for his approval. For example, there were last winter sundry allusions, pictorial and otherwise, to recent events of a political and ecclesiastical nature,—various flourishes of an instrument understood to be a knout,—and excited groups were seen extracting an ultra-military looking personage from a dust-bin, to the infinite merriment of our transpontine audiences. Such humours as these the Lord Chamberlain is not disposed to sanction any longer,—nor, indeed, any other tricks, leaps, escapades or conjurations which have not previously received the seal of his office.—Has the great theatrical censor considered the extent of his decree when he requires that all "such characters, and allusions, whether scenic or pantomimic, shall be noted in full on the manuscript as stage directions"? Would he have the Clown restricted to the observance of a literal rule with his "Here we are with his eye out!"—"How do you do, my little dears?"—"Does your mother know you 're out?"—and such classicalities, dear to the *plebs* and the emancipated school-room, whose prescriptive property Pantomime is? Does he wish to be informed how many cuffs per evening are dealt out to poor Pantaloon—how often Harlequin flies out at window—when roguish Columbine pulls Clown by the ears! Surely this is too much in the spirit of our worthy knight of La Mancha!—a fighting with windmills or riding over a flock of sheep. It would seem, that heretofore it has been the custom to submit to the dramatic licenser only the "opening" or fairy part of the entertainment for his sanction,—the comic scenes, the real harlequinade, having passed without revision. In fact, the after part of a pantomime has never been treated as a formal composition,—subject to rules, like a tragedy or an epic poem. The dialogue varies nightly,—and the tricks and fooleries change almost as frequently, in order to catch the passing humours of the moment. Half the fun—especially across the water—is usually furnished by the audience itself. How is all this to be set "down in the manuscript as stage direction"? The Marquis of Breadalbane might as well run a tilt against a Scotch mist. Why, the very genius of Pantomime would die of the atmosphere of the Lord Chamberlain's Office.

MISCELLANEA

Ocean Penny Postage between Great Britain and France.—No two capitals in the civilized world are trying to get into such close fellowship as London and Paris. * * Still, there is no correspondence in the civilized world so exorbitantly and disproportionately taxed as that between these two great countries, separated by a narrower strait than divides any other two distinct nations on the globe. Let any one stand on the Castle Cliff of Dover, and he may get a vivid impression of this anomalous postal restriction. On a clear day, he will be able to see the French Coast with the naked eye, and almost the town of Calais itself. Now then, let him post a letter in Dover to a person in Calais,—and the charge on it will be 10*d*. if it weighs a quarter of an ounce, and 1*s*. 3*d*. if it weighs half an ounce! Is there any postage in the world to compare with this charge for exorbitancy? *One Shilling and Threepence* on a letter weighing half an ounce, between two ports within sight of each other! Contrast this charge with one in another direction. A person may post a letter, of the same weight, in Dover, to a correspondent in San Francisco, in California, for 1*s*. 2*d*.,—one *penny less* than the postage across the Strait to Calais! And contrast the services performed on the two letters. The one for California is first conveyed across the kingdom to Liverpool, incurring several services on its way: thence it is transported to New York, a distance of 3,000 miles, where two or three more services, connected with receiving and despatching letters, are performed upon it. Thence it is conveyed to Chagres, another long ocean voyage. From Chagres it crosses the Isthmus to Panama, on the Pacific side; thence by steamer to San Francisco, where the last services are performed upon it; and all this for a penny less than would have been charged upon it if posted in Dover to Calais, a distance overcome by steam in less than an hour and a half!
—*Elihu Burritt's Circular.*

To Correspondents.—G. B.—J. B.—C. C. W.—Student—received.

A Constant Subscriber and Lover of Truth.—Our correspondent has, of course, a perfect right to his own opinion on the matter about which he writes; but had he read us carefully, he would know at least that we differ from him as entirely on the particular point to which he refers as we do probably on every other point he then ... It is impossible to enter into discussion with a gentleman who takes his stand some weeks back,—and so escapes all the argument which has since been directed to the precise position which he thus again thrusts forward as if it had been overlooked and unassailed.

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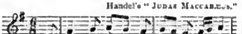

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30	500	6 years	74 12 0	37 10 0
..	1,000	7 years	171 6 6	87 10 0
..	1,500	6 years	220 0 0	150 0 0
..	2,000	9 years	448 10 0	225 0 0
..	2,500	10 years	622 18 4	316 10 0
..	3,000	11 years	690 6 0	412 10 0

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ESTABLISHED 1841.

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At the TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society, held on the 27th day of November, 1851,

BENJAMIN PHILLIPS, Esq. F.R.S. in the Chair.

The following Report was read, showing the progress of the Society since its establishment:—

"The Directors beg to refer the Shareholders to the following Table, which shows the speedy increase of the business of the office:—

Year.	Number of New Policies issued each year.	Sums Assured by New Policies in each year.	Annual Premiums payable on New Policies issued in each year.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1842	130	53,945 1 0	1,992 16 7
1843	208	97,930 16 11	4,092 18 6
1844	197	80,415 6 6	4,120 4 3
1845	228	102,014 11 0	5,363 17 0
1846	190	83,710 14 6	4,165 8 3
1847	313	113,548 4 9	4,237 3 0
1848	416	124,424 17 0	4,980 8 8
1849	470	201,712 10 6	7,496 0 8
1850	569	213,489 10 11	9,103 13 7
1851	613	263,163 1 5	10,327 17 0
Total	3,374	1,336,362 8 1	57,949 18 8

"From this it is found that the business done during the last year is larger than that of any preceding year, and that 613 Policies were effected, yielding Annual Premiums to the extent of 10,327*l.*; while the whole business of the first three years of the Society's existence was confined to the issue of 530 Policies, yielding 10,204*l.* in Annual Premiums.

"The deaths during the year ending 1850 were much under the number expected. It was reasonable, therefore, to suppose that in the following year they would have equalled or even exceeded the number expected; and it is therefore satisfactory to find that the number of deaths in the present year is still somewhat below that provided for by the Society's tables.

"It is also a source of much satisfaction to the Directors to be enabled to state, that the peculiar feature which originated with this Society, and which at the outset constituted its principal claim to public support—viz., the assurance of unsound lives on strictly scientific and sound principles—is fully appreciated by the public; and that the experience of ten years has completely shown the correctness of the opinion originally expressed, that such business can be conducted with safety not only to the assured but to the assurers. The assurance of unsound lives is now very generally practised by other offices as well as this; but the principles upon which such business is done are by no means uniform. In this office, however, the premiums are tabulated from data quite as accurate as those used for ordinary lives, whereas in other offices the premium is fixed without any accurate tables or data.

"The Directors going out by rotation are Thomas Stevenson, Esq. F.S.A. and Alfred Waddilove, D.C.L., and the Auditors going out of office by rotation are John Stirling Taylor, Esq. and Joseph Whitehouse, Esq., all of whom being eligible, offer themselves for re-election."

The Directors and Auditors retiring from office having been duly re-elected without opposition, the business of the meeting terminated by the usual vote of thanks being given.

Prospectuses, containing very full tables of rates, forms of proposal, and every other information, will be forwarded, postage free, on application to any of the Society's Agents, or to the Secretary, at the Chief Office, 25, Pall Mall.

F. G. P. NEISON, Actuary.
C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LONDON.

SHARE OF PROFIT INCREASED FROM ONE-HALF TO FOUR-FIFTHS.

Policies effected with this Society after Midsummer, 1850, and remaining in force at each Septennial period of division, will PARTICIPATE IN FOUR-FIFTHS of the Net Profits of the Society accruing after Midsummer, 1850, in proportion to their contributions to those profits, and according to the conditions contained in the Society's Prospectus and Act of Parliament.

The Premiums required by this Society for insuring young lives are much lower than in many other old-established offices, and Insurers are fully protected from all risk by an ample guarantee fund in addition to the accumulated funds derived from the investments of Premiums.

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92, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON. Established 1808.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT.

RETURNS.—Policies for 300*l.* and upwards which may have been in force for one year prior to the date to which the Account is made up, will be periodically entitled to participate in the return of Surplus Premium.

DISTILLERIES, SUGAR HOUSES; and MERCANTILE PROPERTY, in the Docks; in Private or Public Warehouses; also SHIPPING in Harbour; assured for the Year or for any shorter period on advantageous terms.

FARMING STOCK is now exempt from Duty, and may be assured *without the average clause.*

On assurances for SEVEN YEARS by one payment, a deduction of one-seventh part of the premium and duty will be made.

RENEWALS falling due on Christmas Day should be renewed within fifteen days thereafter.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

The attention of the public has, in the Advertisements and Proposals of this Company of late years, been called to a Table of Additions applicable to and expectant on Policies of particular dates and ages; the Directors now beg to submit the following statement of Claims *actually paid*, showing the Sums respectively assured and the Bonuses thereon, and they request, in order to exemplify the advantageous plan of Assurance proposed by this Company, that persons desirous of effecting Assurances on their Own Lives or on the Lives of Others, will compare the statement now submitted, with the Addition or Bonus of any of the other Offices which may apply to a Policy issued by them since 1816, when the Atlas Company adopted the Bonus System.

Statement of CLAIMS PAID on Policies effected in London, or through an Agent in Great Britain.

No. of Policy.	Name of Life Assured.	Term of Years during which Bonus accrued.	Sum Assured.	Bonus.	Total Amount paid.	Bonus per Cent. on the Sum Assured.	Bonus equal to the undermentioned per Cent. per Annum on the Sum Assured.
			£.	£.	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
213	His Majesty William IV.	[illegible]	3000	1086	4086	[illegible]	[illegible]
60 & 96	His R.H. the Duke of York	[illegible]	5000	968	5968	[illegible]	[illegible]
5410	Admiral Sir W. Sidney Smith	[illegible]	1700	284	1984	[illegible]	[illegible]
3432	The late Duke of Argyll	[illegible]	5000	1453	6453	[illegible]	[illegible]
3604	The late Earl of Clarendon	[illegible]	2500	1190	3690	[illegible]	[illegible]
647	M. R. (Berkeley)	[illegible]	400	177	577	[illegible]	[illegible]
1524	Rev. Thomas Crompton	[illegible]	500	340	840	[illegible]	[illegible]
7495	William Gillies, Esq.	[illegible]	500	157	657	[illegible]	[illegible]
784	George Jones, Esq.	[illegible]	3000	2754	5754	[illegible]	[illegible]
1616	Sir John Sebright, Bart.	[illegible]	5000	3940	8940	[illegible]	[illegible]
1190	Nicholas Dudley	[illegible]	100	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1010	Rev. F. W. Blomberg, D.D.	[illegible]	3000	3536	6536	[illegible]	[illegible]
6060	Rev. Richard Tillard	[illegible]	1000	614	1614	[illegible]	[illegible]
4494	Ditto	[illegible]	1000	775	1775	[illegible]	[illegible]
782	Mrs. Sarah Cope	[illegible]	1000	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
5073	James Price	[illegible]	500	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
190	Michael Booth, Coventry	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Persons assured for the whole term of Life, for 100*l.* and upwards, in Great Britain or Ireland respectively, will be entitled at the end of every FIFTH YEAR (INSTEAD OF EVERY SEVENTH YEAR AS HERETOFORE) to participate in the Surplus Premiums, either by ADDITION to their Policies, or an EQUIVALENT REDUCTION will be made in the future payments of Premium, at the option of the Assured.

Policies may also be effected for the whole term of Life by a limited number of yearly payments.

ASSURANCES FOR SHORT-PERIODS may now be effected in this Office at considerably reduced rates of Premium.

THE NEXT VALUATION will be made at Christmas, 1854, and Policies effected before that date, will participate in proportion to the time they may then have been in force.

The Company's Rates and Proposals may be had at the Office in London, or of any of the Agents in the Country, who are authorised to report on the appearance of Lives proposed for Assurance.

HENRY DESBOROUGH, Secretary.

92, Cheapside, December, 1851.

PELICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Established in 1797,

For Granting Assurances on Lives and Survivorships.

OFFICES,

70, Lombard-street, City, and 57, Charing-cross, Westminster.

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Auditors.

Emanuel Goodhart, Esq. | John Davis, Esq.
John Haggard, Esq. D.C.L.

BONUS.

NOTICE.—FOUR-FIFTHS of the net Profits realised by the Company from Insurances effected upon the Participating Scale of Premiums allotted, agreeably to the conditions of the Policies, every Seven Years, commencing from the 3rd of July, 1840.

The following is a specimen of the Bonuses declared at the first septennial investigation up to the 2nd of July 1847.

Age when Assured.	Sum Assured.	Premiums Paid.		Bonus added.	Per-centage on Premium Paid.
		Number.	Amount.		
15	£3000	6	£315 6 0	£164 16 0	£52 0 0
25	5000	7	775 16 0	347 19 0	44 11 0
35	2500	6	431 17 0	162 10 0	42 10 6
45	2000	6	464 0 0	172 9 7	37 1 10

Annual Premium required for the Assurance of £100 for the whole term of life:—

Age.	Without Profits.	With Profits.	Age.	Without Profits.	With Profits.
15	£1 11 0	£1 15 0	40	£2 18 10	£3 6 5
20	1 13 10	1 19 3	50	4 0 9	4 10 7
30	2 4 0	2 10 4	60	6 1 0	6 7 4

ROBERT TUCKER, Secretary.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.
Established A.D. 1815.

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Greatly increased facilities have recently been given to Assured parties having occasion to go abroad; and in the case of many Foreign Countries (including considerable portions of North America and Australia, New Zealand, the Cape of Good Hope, &c.) the only extra charge now imposed by the Directors is for risk of Sea Voyage.

All information may be obtained at the Head Office, or at any of the Society's numerous Agencies in England, Ireland, and Scotland.

JOHN MACKENZIE, Manager.
WILLIAM LINDESAY, Secretary.

LONDON OFFICE—4, ROYAL EXCHANGE-BUILDINGS.
HUGH M'KEAN, Agent.

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established by Act of Parliament in 1834—8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

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The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
*1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	22 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	13 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	628 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 5 0	545 5 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

* EXAMPLE.—At the commencement of the year 1841, a person aged thirty took out a Policy for 1,000*l.*, the annual payment for which is 24*l.* 1s. 8*d.*; in 1847 he had paid in premiums 168*l.* 11s. 8*d.*; but the profits being 2¼ per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is 22*l.* 10s. per annum for each 1,000*l.*) he had 157*l.* 10s. added to the Policy, almost as much as the premiums paid.

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director, at the Office, 8, Waterloo-place, London.

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3d. to insure £1,000, in a first-class carriage.
2d. ditto 500, in a second-class carriage.
1d. ditto 200, in a third-class carriage.

These sums to be paid to the legal representatives of the holder in case of fatal accident while travelling by railway, with proportionate compensation to himself in cases of personal injury.

ALEXANDER BEATTIE, Secretary.
3, Old Broad street, Nov. 1851.

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English's Patent Camphine, in sealed cans, 4s. per gallon.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1851.

REVIEWS

Letters on Turkey—[*Lettres sur la Turquie*]. By M. Ubicini. Part I. Paris, Guillaumin.

TURKEY is a state that has a twofold interest,—arising from its history and from its important relations to the balance of power in Europe. It is more widely separated from the European family of nations by differences of religion and of law than many more remote countries. Its political importance arises from its geographical position; which, if in the possession of Russia, would give to the Czar the means of maintaining a vast maritime force. As Hungary in the age of Charles the Fifth was regarded as a bulwark against the Turks,—so is the land of the Turk now looked on by the statesmen of Western Europe as the point at which the ambition of Russia is to be encountered. Potemkin's inscription on the southern gate of Cherson—"This is the road to Constantinople"—is accepted as shadowing forth the policy of Russia. Whether such an opinion be exaggerated, it is not our business to discuss.

M. Ubicini, the author of the able volume before us, appears to be one of those travelling journalists who have effected a new development of the press. Armed with credentials as "our own correspondents," they scour various lands, collect statistical tables, describe trades and manufactures, and, like the auctioneer in 'The Belle's Stratagem,' discuss every subject "from a riband to a Raphael." Some other time we may perhaps enter into the question whether the public be better served by newspaper travellers or by independent tourists. We content ourselves now with saying, that we have seen very good and very bad specimens of the former class. Amongst the best that have come under our notice is M. Ubicini, — whose present volume is reprinted, with some retrenchments, from the columns of the *Moniteur*. His book contains a thorough and scientific analysis of the social condition and resources of Turkey. It is not written for literary effect, nor made up of picturesque descriptions:—its interest and value arise from its economic survey of the strength and weakness of Turkey. Of the author we know nothing. His name indicates a Southern origin; and his thinking is broader and more tolerant than that of the merely Parisian philosopher. There is throughout his volume a conscientious study of his subject that is highly praiseworthy. But though valuable to the economist and politician, the book is not likely to be interesting to those who read merely for amusement.

From a variety of causes, Turkey has been during the last thirty years in a state of internal transition. About 1832, when the Turkish question occupied the attention of both England and France, the computation used to be that the Sultan ruled over forty millions of subjects. In 1844 a census was taken through the empire, and the result was as follows.—

Races.	Europe.	Asia.	Africa.	Total.
Ottomans	1,100,000	10,700,000		11,800,000
Sclavonians ..	7,800,000			7,800,000
Roumelians ..	4,000,000			4,000,000
Arnauts	1,500,000			1,500,000
Greeks	1,000,000	1,000,000		2,000,000
Armenians	400,000	3,000,000		3,400,000
Jews	70,000	100,000		170,000
Tartars	230,000			230,000
Arabs		900,000	3,800,000	4,700,000
Syrians & Chaldeans		235,000		235,000
Druses		25,000		25,000
Kurds		1,000,000		1,000,000
Turcomans ..		90,000		90,000
	15,500,000	16,050,000	3,800,000	35,350,000

—Thus, according to the Turkish authority, the whole population was found to be less by five millions than was supposed.—A glance at the table will point to yet more important facts. In a small space, and with few words, it represents the want of unity and the discordance of the populations subject to the Sultan. To keep such a state together would require a respectable force leaving little reserve against external aggression,—and suggesting that but for foreign aid the whole Turkish empire would crumble to fragments. The diplomacy of Western Europe prevented Turkey from falling into the grasp of Mohammed Ali. In the political weakness of such a power, and in its geographical site, we see the certainty that in the next European war Turkey will be an object of cupidity and contest. Russian and French ambition will be directed towards the land of the Sultan.

The administration of the Turkish Empire is closely described by M. Ubicini. The government is an absolute monarchy, tempered by fixed institutions, and by traditional manners so inflexible as to modify the action of the ruling power within certain limits:—illustrating Hume's sagacious aphorism, that, "All power, even the most despotic, is ultimately founded upon opinion." The reigning Sultan, Abdul-Medjid, ascended the throne on the 1st of July 1839, and takes the title of Emperor (or Padishah) of the Ottomans. He names his Vizier, (an office dating from 750 A.C.) in whose hands ministerial power is deposited. The Ulema is a sort of council, at once judicial and ecclesiastical, and exercises a power analogous to our Privy Council. The Sheik-ul-Islam ranks in the hierarchy with the Vizier, and receives 100,000 piastres (920*l.*) per month. He is the chief of the Ulema,—and is sometimes called the Mufti; and he exercises functions similar to a Lord Chancellor and Archbishop of Canterbury.

From the conduct pursued by the Sultan in the case of Kossuth, our readers may be curious to know something of the present Turkish cabinet. It is thus composed:—1. The Vizier, or Salvi-azam (Prime Minister), is Moustafa Rechid Pacha. He was first named Vizier in 1846, and is a decided promoter of reform, and friend to liberal progress in Turkey. He has great experience and a wide knowledge of life; having been referendary to the Divan in 1834, afterwards ambassador at London and Paris, and subsequently minister at Constantinople for foreign affairs. 2. The Mufti, or Sheik-ul-Islam, is Arif Hakmet Bey Effendi. 3. Mohammed-Ali Pacha (brother-in-law of the Sultan) is the Ser-asker, or Secretary at War. 4. Alimed-Fethi Pacha (also brother-in-law to the Sultan) is Minister of the Ordnance; he was formerly ambassador at Vienna and Paris. 5. Sulemin Pacha is the capitan pacha, or "First Lord of the Admiralty." He was ambassador at Paris in 1846, and in the same year was an envoy on the frontier between Austria. 6. Aali-Pacha is the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. He was formerly secretary to the Turkish embassy at Paris. He is a zealous supporter of the cause of progress, and belongs to the school of the Vizier, of whom he is the attached friend and indefatigable ally. Doubtless these two ministers exercised great weight on the Sultan's decision in the case of Kossuth; and their own personal knowledge of the ruling powers at Paris and London must not a little have contributed to give the Turkish cabinet its firmness of resolve. There are other ministers of less influence and weight.

There is no want, as M. Ubicini shows, of institutions in Turkey. He gives a careful detail of the whole apparatus of authority,—and exhibits a large and well planned administrative system. But the spirit of Turkish life is stagnant and retrograde. The religion of Islam, according to M. Ubicini, is the cause of the backward state of Turkey. Its principles are so fixed as to be incapable of adaptation to the variety that the human mind craves for. The stamp of divinity and eternity with which the creed of Islam affects to mark its institutions will be the sure cause of its fall. Thus, every innovator in Turkey, according to our author, is a sort of scoffer, who assails institutions supposed to have originated in a divine source. Our author philosophically contrasts Christianity and Mohammedanism;—fixing attention on the fact that the former recognizes the separation between Church and State. He devotes an entire chapter to an analysis of the Koran, which he has executed with great ability; and urges strongly on metaphysical grounds that the fatalism of the creed of Islam must palsy the will and cripple the mental energy of its votaries.

The history of the press in Turkey is very curious,—and has so much suggestiveness, that it reads like an apologue from the 'Spectator.' The first Turkish press dates from the time of Ahmed the Third (1727). At that time there existed at Constantinople several Hebrew, Greek, and Armenian presses. So long since as 1488 there had been a Hebrew lexicon printed at Constantinople. Towards the middle of the seventeenth century the Greek and Armenian presses were in full activity there. In spite of this, every attempt up to 1727 to introduce printing for the Turks themselves had completely failed. In the month of October 1720, Mohammed Effendi was sent as ambassador to Paris, with the secret mission of endeavouring to penetrate the policy of the great Christian powers. He was accompanied on his travels by his son Said Effendi. The latter was greatly struck by the results of printing at Paris; and noted with attention the progress of the West of Europe, and the decline of the East, since the invention of printing. On his return to Constantinople, Said communicated his thoughts to a Hungarian renegade of the name of Ibrahim; who immediately drew up a memoir for the reigning Sultan on the vast advantages likely to result from Turkish printing presses.

Mark what followed! At the very sound of the innovation there was great alarm at Constantinople. Those springs of action called by Bentham "interest-begotten prejudices" were soon in full play. The members of the Ulema saw their downfall in the rise of the press. In order to maintain their political ascendancy they pretended that the creed of Islam was in danger. They even went so far as to represent the new-fangled project as a profanation of human thought, which they said "had always been transmitted by writing, and which ought not to be divulged by any other mode." There came an outcry from the fifteen thousand Kiatib, or scriveners, who lived by copying manuscripts. These threatened to stone whoever desired to set up printing presses. Nor were the amateurs of the caligraphic art without sentimental grief at the demand being likely to cease for beautiful specimens of penmanship. But the Mufti was firm, and advised the Sultan not to yield to clamour. To take away all pretence for a religious cry, it was arranged that the Koran and the canonical books should continue to circulate in manuscript, but for other books the press was established. This compromise was attended with success enough to disarm opposition; but the wretched success of literature in Turkey attests the apathy of the Turkish mind, resulting, no doubt, from the powerful narcotic of

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Islamism. Ibrahim Effendi, the first introducer of the press, was a man of vast energy,—and was on a large scale printer, translator, corrector and author. He was one of those superior natives, never wanting to Turkey, who nevertheless are unable to achieve great results owing to certain drowsy and deadening influences which sensualize the Turkish mind, and make it gross and carnal. Ibrahim introduced books of social utility, such as the histories of various countries. But with all his efforts, after twenty-eight years the Turkish press produced only eighteen works, or twenty-five volumes, the number of copies being only 16,500. The press sank for a time entirely; but was again established in 1783, and from that year up to 1828 it printed eighty works in the Turkish tongue. The subjects of these were chiefly of a utilitarian character,—abridgments and compilations from European works of celebrity. From 1830 to 1842 there were 108 works printed in Turkish:—and the press appears to be progressing, but at a slow rate. The Sultan has taken a special interest in the publication of works on military science, which are introduced in primary and secondary education. M. Bianchi, ex-translator of foreign languages to the Sultan, has suggested that that prince should imitate the example of the Viceroy of Egypt, and establish at Paris a mission of young Ottomans to form a connecting link of ideas and civilization.

The newspaper press in Turkey dates from 1828:—the first journal having been established at Smyrna by M. Blacque. It was called the *Spectator of the East*. In 1831 M. Blacque was called to Constantinople by the Sultan Mahmoud, and there established the *Ottoman Moniteur*—the official journal of the Sublime Porte. This journal was published in French; and in the next year another copy translating its contents into Turkish was published. Up and down throughout the Ottoman Empire are scattered a few journals which drag out a feeble existence. They apparently are undertaken for personal objects, to attract official influence to the owners and contributors. Two Turkish, four Italian, four French, one Greek, one Armenian, one Bulgarian,—such is the extent of Turkish journalism. About twenty years ago Mr. Edwards set up the *Smyrna Independent*,—which was lapsed into a French paper.

But bad as the literary progress of Turkey may be, its industrial condition is still worse. In commercial energy, according to M. Ubicini, there is a marked decline. Several branches of manufacture that once existed in Turkey have ceased, and their places have been taken by others. Once it supplied itself with its own manufactures, and circulated them in the East. Now, it exports nothing to Europe but raw materials and imports its manufactures. Anatolia, Diarbekir, and Broussa, once celebrated for their silks and velvets, now make only a tenth part of what they once produced. At Scutari and Tournovo there were 2,000 muslin looms at work in 1812, and in 1831 there were only 240:—so on in other departments. In fact, there is, according to our author, an internal decline throughout Turkey; and any facts which show a comparative advance when contrasted with former periods of Turkey, suggest an opposite conclusion when we take into account the prodigious strides made in the rest of Europe. Some of our readers may recollect the publications on Russia and Turkey by "A Manchester Manufacturer" which twenty years since attracted attention to Mr. Cobden. The views then put forward as to the wretched and unprogressive state of Turkey are confirmed by this volume of M. Ubicini. It presents the dreary spectacle of a declining race, with an obsolete faith and old-fashioned Orientalisms, which certain bold and well meaning Turkish Ministers vainly endeavour to mould into elements in sympathy with civilization. When we think of what Poland was once, of how Hungary has fared recently,—and behold Turkey with its anti-progressive spirit, its sinking commerce, and its vicious customs, still preserved in the European chart of nations,—we ask what can be the cause that it is not long since extinct?—that the Ottoman Empire has been maintained, while the nations of Kosciusko and of Kossuth have been extirpated and (for a time) trampled down? The answer is patent:—viz., If Turkey is to fall, who is to get it? Shall it be Russian, French, Austrian, or English,—if not in name, at least actually? That tempting line of sea coast, with the city of Constantinople and its powerful position, are enough to tantalize the ambition of Austrian and Russian dynasties. Our readers recollect what France has sacrificed to obtain a settlement at Algiers,—and French writers have more than once hinted that in Turkey France could compensate herself for the want of the Indies. What Milan was between Francis the First and Charles the Fifth—the Low Countries between William the Third and Louis the Fourteenth—Turkey will be in the next great contest between Eastern and Western Europe. All accounts of it show that it cannot be a substantive power,—but that, like Spain, it must lean for support on some external force. It has only one tie of sympathy with the people of England,—namely, the Turk is tolerant in religion, and on that point may invite a favourable comparison with some Southern communities that do no honour to the Christian name. But even in his toleration (if such it is to be called) the faults of the Turkish character are evident. This toleration does not spring so much from a humane aversion to insulting the opinions of another, or from any instinctive perception of the rights of conscience, as from an apathetic indifference to modes of thinking not his own,—a profoundly callous apathy of character satisfied with its own coarse and received ideas. The want of domestic life resulting from polygamy, and the narrow dogmatism of the Koran (on which the State as well as the Church of Islam depend), combine to make the mass of the Turks a population less susceptible of improvement even in the hands of enlightened rulers than any other people in Europe. M. Ubicini takes a more favourable view of Turkish domestic life than most other writers; and represents polygamy as quite unfashionable at Constantinople, though prevailing in the provinces.

The present Government in Turkey is decidedly a progressive one,—and has on the whole enlightened views. But "*sine moribus quid prosunt leges?*" There have been as enlightened rulers before in Turkey,—and their efforts at regenerating the people on a Mohammedan basis have proved fruitless.

We shall be glad to see M. Ubicini's second volume:—and in the mean time recommend his work to readers who like to study the economical and political condition of Europe.

NEW NOVELS.

Jacob Bendixen, the Jew. Adapted from the Danish of Goldschmidt. By Mary Howitt. 3 vols. Colburn & Co.

Whether it be the *Ghetto* at Rome, or the desolate sea-bank on the *Lido* at Venice, or the quaint cemetery in the Polder without the gates of Amsterdam, or the *Juden-gasse* at Frankfort,—certain it is, that the quarter of any Continental town or its suburbs devoted to Hebrew life or death has a character and a sentiment of its own,—full of picturesque, but also of painful, interest. Usages beyond the pale of our ordinary sympathies—lives shut up and set apart, as much by outward persecution as by inner pride—something of the poetry of antique times and far-away countries, more potent than the associations conjured up by vulgar prejudice and reproach—are there symbolized or expressed. But few—be their toleration ever so real, their demeanour ever so winning—have opportunities of piercing to the reality through the dream-like veil which hides the life and death of the Jew abroad. His worship is unintelligible,—his domestic usages are rarely revealed to strangers—his heart's bitterness is one into which they could hardly enter were it even made known to them. Thus, this tale of all these things, written by a Jew, has—as its translator, in her preface, asserts—the fascination and the value of a glimpse into a most strange world.

When we have said that the parents of Jacob Bendixen are Danish Jews, settled at Funen,—that the first volume is devoted to the experiences of his childhood and early adolescence,—that the second displays him in the midst of those breakers of passion, through which it has been maintained that a man's heart can pass only once,—that the third shows the current of his life after the storm,—we have hinted as much concerning the acts and scenes of this painful tale as we care to indicate. For, most painful it is.—The Jew child, whose lot happened to be cast in the midst of a small Hebrew congregation, was brought up without the companionship of children. Christian boys scouted and plagued him with all the incessant malignity of which childish thoughtlessness is capable. The Jew student, even when he had distinguished himself among his college mates, could not woo and win as other men do. Having succeeded in gaining the respect of a Christian family and the love of its fairest flower, Jacob Bendixen was far from happiness. Every new family friend and relation to whom the betrothal was announced was a new serpent in his Garden of Eden. The scenes which passed may be indicated by the first of a long and irritating series of such encounters.—

"The sound of the stage-coach suddenly pulling up before the house released both himself and the company generally from the petrifying influence which had fallen upon them. All hastened to the window to see who had arrived. Jacob blessed in his heart the stranger who had come so opportunely. 'Mother!' exclaimed Thora, 'there is my aunt!'—'Yes, good heavens! my aunt,' chimed in her sister; and clapping their hands they ran out of the room to receive her. The visitors took their leave, and Jacob, who was abashed and dejected, would have followed their example, if it could have been done with propriety. When the aunt had embraced and kissed her sister and her nieces and inquired after the health of the absent merchant, Jacob was introduced to her as Thora's betrothed. 'I congratulate you!' said the aunt, very coldly but politely. Jacob bowed most respectfully. 'But how happens it that you are come so unexpectedly, dear Matilde?' asked Mrs. Fangel. 'Good heavens! the occasion is a happy one!' replied aunt Matilde. 'You know that ever since the death of his sister, my husband has lost all desire to continue at the parsonage, although it is so good a living; therefore he made inquiries after a living in the city. In the spring we got a letter to say that the living he wished for was at his service; and as soon as I heard that, I had no longer any wish to remain a country parson's wife. I set off, and now you have me, and here I shall stay till my husband comes. Good heavens! How I have longed after Copenhagen!'—'Oh, that is delightful!' exclaimed Thora's sister; 'And so then my uncle will be our parish minister! he can marry you, Thora!'—'Thora!' interrupted

the aunt, with a keen glance; 'can she be married by a Christian minister?' So unexpected and so startling was this exclamation, that Jacob at first could hardly believe his ears; the next moment it seemed to him impossible that it could be said in any other spirit than that of sheer stupidity. Question and answer in the mean time were uninterruptedly interchanged. Whilst the aunt replied, Mrs. Fangel had already a fresh question on her lips.—'When does your husband come? Does he enter on the living immediately?'—'Yes; he only stops till he has sold our rubbish by auction. We shall get everything new here, from top to bottom.'—'But will not aunt go and change her dress?' asked Thora's sister. Thora had walked silently to one of the windows; Jacob stood with a sorely perplexed mind in another window, and drew figures on the pane of glass. 'Yes, thank you, my child! But let me first have a cup of warm coffee. Ah, see there, Mr. Lieutenant!——' exclaimed she, casting her eye on Engborg, who had not left with the others, and who had approached her—'Ay, and you really,' added she, in an undertone, 'have let my niece be carried off from just under your nose!' Jacob heard these words. It was not possible for him to doubt their meaning, yet he could not take offence at them. The aunt seemed to him like a demon who had broken loose to persecute him. At length, she went to change her dress. He longed to approach Thora; to excuse his behaviour to her, and to have thus early such an understanding with her as might secure him against this horrible woman; but Thora, with a look of displeasure, also left the room and followed the others into the chamber. He stood in torturing anxiety; so much did he dread any word which might possibly be exchanged among them. Of a certainty, his countenance must have expressed the musing of his soul; for, some time afterwards, when Thora approached him, she pressed his hand tenderly, whilst she gazed into his face with eyes full of tears. In a moment, Jacob's suffering was at an end; but it was only for a moment; for, in the next, he asked himself, how long will she retain affection and regard for the Jew whom she allows to be persecuted under her own roof? Jacob was seated at table by the aunt, as if it were intended to bring them amicably together; but the first words she addressed to him were, 'Nay, I'm pleased. Then you do eat with us!' Shortly after, she turned towards him, in a friendly manner, and asked about his birthplace, his rank of life, and so forth. When he had given her some information on these subjects, she asked,—'But what do your family say to your having betrothed yourself to a Christian girl?'—Jacob had self-possession enough to give an evasive reply, but he sat as if on the rack. He would have given a year of his life if he could have silenced that tongue—if he could have prevented it from uttering those poisonous words, to which the whole company sat listening with profound attention. He felt as if madness were raging within him—as if a burning hatred arose within him of all those who heard these words, and more especially of her who uttered them."

Few after having been introduced to such a family counsellor, and to such a figure in the background as a disappointed Lieutenant, will require to be satisfied as to the manner in which Jacob Bendixen's comfortable courtship ended. From the time, however, when he leaves Denmark the novel falls off sadly. In the annals of real suffering violent and changeful adventure does often succeed to the explosion of passion long pent up and slowly developed,—but it makes a bad and patchy third volume. We care little for Jacob Bendixen in Paris,—as little when he is embarked in the Polish struggle; being all the time impatient to restore him to the scenes of his home joys and sorrows,—to retribution, or atonement, as may be. Which of the two awaits the Jew on his return to Denmark we shall not tell;—wishing heartily to commend the novel, not merely to the common novel-reader, but to all—grave or gay—who concern themselves with the effects of persecution on human intercourse and character.

The Convent and the Harem. By Madame Pisani. 3 vols. Bentley.

An indolent person was once known to us who, on being encouraged to cultivate his mind, used to ask concerning every book proposed to him by energetic contemporaries or wisely-judging seniors, "Is it very arduous reading?" This novel has emphatically reminded us of our friend's epithet. It *is* a truly arduous novel.—Madame Pisani has toiled her best to render into English the Cavaliere Rosini's 'Il Conte Ugolino della Gherardesca e i Ghibelini di Pisa.' She has left out under the Cavaliere's superintendence certain parts and personages of the original story,—she has modified others, with the view of adapting the Italian tale, with its long-winded title, to English use;—and our admiration at her perseverance equals our fatigue as we follow her through these three weary volumes. The heaviness and academical formality of modern Italian imagination have more than once struck us as a phenomenon singular among a people so impulsive in their passion, so richly various in their parlance. Even their one great romance, 'I Promessi Sposi,' weighs upon the spirits of the reader more than it excites them;—while the second-rate tribe, such as 'Ettore Fioramosca,' 'Marco Visconti,' and others, live in English esteem, only as so many books taken out by the summer tourist in the somewhat empirical hope of thereby increasing his familiarity with the country, the life, and the language on the further side of the Alps. There is a dryness in the descriptions—a poverty in the characters—an inflated wordiness in the passionate dialogues, which repel rather than invite. Hence more than one critic has fancied that the Italian feuds and conspiracies, to which these tales are chiefly devoted, are totally intractable in fiction. Surely they are less so than the forays and fightings of the little Border chiefs to which Scott could give an almost Homeric interest. Schiller, again, when he grappled with what he himself styled such a dry political transaction as the fate and fall of Wallenstein, could by the magic of his art transmute it into one of those poems which make the heart throb, the cheek burn, the eyes fill. We may further recall how Byron and Shelley, in their tragedies of 'Marino Faliero' and 'The Cenci,' could make two Italian stories—the one singularly local, the other almost intolerably horrible—universal in their interest. It is not, then, that character and incident are wanting to the annals of Italy,—but to its modern literature are wanting the magicians capable of presenting them. In place of such sorcerers, we have ponderous builders-up of phrases, skilled, but adust antiquarians, confused weavers of plot and counterplot;—and Il Cavaliere Rosini, as here set before us in an English dress, seems among the most ponderous, adust, and confused of the party. In his hands the struggle betwixt the Guelphs and the Ghibellines of Pisa, however pompously announced, takes no grander proportions than a squabble betwixt two rival families. The fascinations of Genivra Lancia, the harem-bred Ghibelline beauty, which entangle what may be called the thread of private adventure that is introduced to relieve the record of public feud and jealousy, differ little in quality from the airs and graces exhibited by those bad ladies, demoralized by reading bad French novels, who behave so injuriously to unsettled husbands and pattern wives in Miss Edgeworth's prudent, but somewhat prosaic tales. Yet, one of the brightest scenes in 'The Convent and the Harem' is the following, which shows this coquettish Genivra on the hunting field:—also the pain which her popularity there gave to the angelic Bianca.—

"Bianca had not, as yet, seen either Montefeltro, Lancia, or his niece; but, as she took her place beside Nino, while Ubaldino, with a hurried excuse, galloped away, her attention was soon attracted by a low murmur of admiration, mingled with voices of entreaty, and laughing refusals, which every moment approached nearer and nearer, while the words, 'beautiful!' 'angelic!' 'heavenly!' met her ear upon all sides. This unusual sound in such a scene was at length explained, as a sudden and eager opening in the circle, immediately opposite to where she and her party had reined up, gave to her view Genivra, clad in a complete suit of mail, except the helmet, fitting perfectly to her exquisite form, and composed of the richest and most elastic materials, wrought by the most exquisite skill which the world could then produce. On her head she wore a hunting cap of crimson silk, ornamented with the gold embroidery for which Lucca was then famous, with a heron's plume fixed to it by a valuable diamond. This costume, with a falcon hooded on her wrist, and a little silver bell attached to her saddle behind, gave the intimation to the entranced beholders that she was come, not as a spectatress, but as a sharer in their sports. She rode a beautiful bay Arab, and her groom, decked in the colours of her cap, followed close behind, carrying a fairy bow, arrows, and lance. It is quite impossible to convey the least idea of the effect produced on that assemblage of gentlemen by such an appearance—such a compliment—such an intimation of fellowship in their ruder sports, from a creature so exquisitely, so femininely beautiful, in spite of, or rather in contrast with, her warlike attire. * * The multitude, a moment before so noisy, became hushed in the intensity of admiring expectation. They had not to endure it long; a speck was presently seen floating in the air; Genivra unhooded her falcon, and, scarcely moving her wrist, the noble bird raised his head, as if to salute the light, looked round him for a moment on the assembled company, then, as if become aware, by what he saw, of what was expected from him, he cast a searching glance into the air, perceived, and seemed to reconnoitre the enemy's movements for a second; then, slowly stretching out his wings to their fullest extent, as if to assure himself of their being in order, he darted upwards, leaving on the minds of the spectators the impression of a haughty, but noble character, slow to decide, but prompt in action, and certain of success. Nor did that success become doubtful, in the eager eyes which followed him, because he hastened not to seize his prey; but, never increasing nor shortening the distance between him and it, as, terrified and bewildered, one of the most beautiful of the pheasant tribe moved higher and lower, and performed various evolutions through the air, the falcon seemed as if he were enjoying the splendid emanations reflected from its plumes, as they received the sun's rays in different positions. The shouts of the delighted crowds beneath, appeared to excite the pursued and the pursuer. They quickened their movements, contracted the sphere of their circles, and, at last, just as Bianca turned to Beatrice to say, 'And this gives you pleasure?' the falcon, with the air of one who would not exhaust the plaudits that gratified him, stooped upon the beauteous creature, and, seizing it in his talons, lowered himself, gracefully, until he arrived whence he had departed, when, placing his prey in the right hand of his mistress, with the air of a knight who would say, 'I have done your behest and won my reward,' he resumed his place upon her left wrist. The admiration and enthusiasm of the spectators were now unbounded, and, it is scarcely necessary to say, that, in a moment, the lovely stranger was surrounded by all who could, by any means, get within sight or hearing of the idol of the moment."

At a ball in the evening, something like the well-known scene betwixt *Brunetta* and *Phillis* occurred,—Bianca's Abigail having made up for Bianca's wearing a crown such as Genivra had prepared for the purpose of turning all heads and hearts. What was more provoking, Bianca looked the better of the two in the new ornament. But the Ghibelline *Armida* had more arrows than one in her quiver. Her head being baulked, she had recourse to her feet. Being discomfited by the triumph of Bianca's crown, Genivra retired into an alcove,—got her

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uncle, the old and stern Admiral Lancia, to fasten bells to her ancles, and coming out, cymbal in hand, and exhibiting a Moorish dance, entirely took possession of all the gentlemen for the rest of the evening.—Puerile as this scene is, it is amongst the liveliest and most life-like in the romance.—In some graver portions of his tale Il Cavaliere Rosini (or Madame Pisani) is too fond of appealing to Dante; by allusions to whose 'Divina Commedia' he tries to eke out his own deficiencies in characterization.—In others, we are arrested by pages of prosy epitomes of history, or by harangues, the tediousness of which is narcotic. To conclude, be the day long or short—the weather hot or cold—we cannot fancy a tougher piece of exercise for the youngest and most enterprising of novel readers than to be compelled to read 'The Convent and the Harem,' with a view to giving an abridged account of it afterwards.

Cardinal Allen's Defence of Sir William Stanley's Surrender of Deventer, January 29th, 1586-7. Edited by Thomas Heywood, Esq. Printed for the Chetham Society.

When we took up this book we were disposed to anticipate better things than, at the conclusion of its reading, we are enabled to report concerning it. We saw that it was preceded by a long "introduction,"—and had foot-notes containing a list of authorities, quotations from many works, and detailed accounts of Lancashire families. It was evident, therefore, that the editor had spared no pains,—and to this praise he is certainly entitled; but we cannot congratulate him on the use which he has made of his materials. These, from his own reading and from the contributions of his friends, seem to have accumulated upon his hands in such a manner that in the end he hardly knew what to do with them. Accordingly, his "introduction" is overloaded, and not well digested; and we could have been better content with half the information (especially of a genealogical kind) if it had insured us a little more breadth of view and greater clearness of statement. The editor has crammed himself to repletion,—and the result is for that reason not quite satisfactory.

The explanation of the matter is perhaps to be found in the fact, that most of the books of the Chetham Society having been so well prepared, Mr. Heywood was anxious not to be behind hand;—but his means have defeated his end. His own reading was doubtless sufficient; but his friends have apparently been so obtrusive of their good offices, and he has been so scrupulous in acknowledgment, that the slightest and most needless contribution has received its laudatory recognition. In one place a gentleman could not supply the mere reference to a MS. without obtaining a separate note of thanks. We have generally a great deal too much of this in works of the kind; and we earnestly advise such as engage to superintend publications for literary Societies to depend more on their own knowledge and inquiries. If they do not possess sufficient resources, let them decline the task;—if they undertake it, let the officious zeal of Mr. A, B, and C. find vent elsewhere, however disappointed they may be at not finding their names in capitals in the preface.

In reference to the notes, we must say that we decidedly object to the waste of print and paper on details of insignificant family history. What do readers care about the origin of Mr. John Poole, of Capenhurst—of Mr. Richard Massey, of Aldford—and of twenty others?—To go to greater names:—if it be true that the Earl of Derby "died September 25, 1592," as we are told in a note at p. xlii, how can it be true, as we hear on the very next page, that he "died under strange circumstances, April 16, 1594"? The last is probably the correct date; and the error must have arisen from confounding Henry Stanley with Ferdinando Stanley, of whose illness and death Stow gives so circumstantial an account in his 'Chronicle,' pp. 1275, 77.

The surrender of Deventer to the Spaniards, by Sir William Stanley, in the very beginning of 1587, is an historical event of so much importance, and has been mentioned so frequently by Meteeren, Thuanus, Strada, and other foreign writers, to say nothing of our own, that it is somewhat late in the day for any one to come forward with a fresh narrative of particulars so notorious. Nevertheless, we could have accepted a brief summary by way of explanation of the origin of Cardinal Allen's 'Defence' of Sir William Stanley's treachery. It might also have been as well to have annexed a sketch of the lives of the hero and of his apologist:—but the editor's lengthened detail of antiquated facts seems to us wholly unnecessary. The volume consists of about 150 pages, and of these the "introduction" fills considerably more than two-thirds; while Allen's tract follows, in small type, as a sort of make-weight appendage. Neither are we altogether of opinion that the latter was worth even this distinction; for though it may be a literary curiosity, we are far from thinking that Societies like the Chetham do well to expend their funds on reprints of pieces which historians would now hardly refer to and which ordinary readers would never wish to see at all. Cardinal Allen's production does not give a particle of information not found elsewhere; and his arguments are little more than the effrontery of unscrupulous Romanism or the sophistry of unprincipled jesuitry. The game, as our neighbours say, was hardly worth the candle,—especially so expensive a candle as Mr. Heywood has lighted. He has wasted much time and space in the illustration of a production by no means remarkable for its learning or its eloquence. It is, in fact, hardly even a fair specimen of the writer's controversial abilities,—certainly by no means so favourable a one as others that might have been selected. Let us instance what Allen calls his "sincere and modest defence of English Catholics," in reply to the celebrated tract by Burleigh.

We are not disposed to go into a critical examination of Mr. Heywood's "introduction." We should be perhaps wrong in considering it as entirely by his hand,—for we fancy that we see in the course of it specimens of various styles of writing. The opinions, so far as any are expressed, do not appear to be always consistent; and with one of them we cannot at all agree,—viz., that Allen at different periods of his life varied in his notion as to the fitness and justice of dethroning Elizabeth. We can trace no such variation. On the contrary, he always maintained that by her excommunication her subjects were released from their allegiance; and this, in truth, is the main ground on which he rests his 'Defence' of Stanley. It is the same point for which he contended from the commencement to the close of his career. If he did not openly and in terms advocate the assassination of the Queen, he was on the most intimate footing with Parsons and others who did. Nor was there so much difference between Allen and Parsons, to the advantage of the former, as Mr. Heywood would establish. Both were learned, wily, and unscrupulous; but Allen's cunning was overlaid by an appearance of gentleness, fairness, and openness, which rendered him doubly dangerous. The Pope well knew what he was about when he gave the purple to Allen rather than to Parsons, although the claim of the latter was supported by an advocate no less powerful than the King of Spain. It was the cue of Parsons to speak out, and to incite to acts of violence; while Allen's part was to affect to soothe and allay,—and to make people believe that the Roman Catholics were most unfairly belied, and that their true designs (excepting so far as the removal of Elizabeth was concerned) were most gentle, peaceable and inoffensive.

If the Pope made Allen a Cardinal, Mr. Heywood has made a much more unlikely person a Bishop:—for at p. lxxv he has advanced Martin Marprelate to a see. This error is of course a misprint;—and we regret to add, that there are several others of some importance in the volume, notwithstanding the minute affectation of accuracy, in observing even the old and absurd punctuation.—The conclusion of the introduction, with its quotation from Dante, affords a specimen of what some may call fine writing; for which the editor has of course made himself responsible,—but which we should point out as one of the passages that probably did not come from a discreet, learned and chastened pen.

The Iris: an Illuminated Souvenir, for 1852. Edited by John S. Hart, L.L.D. Philadelphia, Lippincott, Grambo & Co.; London, Delf & Trübner.

In the last American gift-books with which we dealt, we had to object to a too limited employment of the picturesque materials furnished in such rich quantities by the New World. No such charge is to be laid against this 'Iris,'—which, therefore, although by no means a volume of high literary or artistic pretension, is a welcome Christmas book. The matter—we are informed in the Preface—was principally collected by "Capt. Eastman of the United States Topographical Corps;" who having been "stationed for nine years on the north-western frontier among the Indian tribes at and around Fort Snelling, made a series of drawings of some of the most striking and remarkable objects connected with Indian traditions." Mrs. Eastman accompanied many of these with illustrations in prose and verse, derived also from Indian sources,—and a large portion of the letter-press of 'The Iris' is from her hand. The illustrations are executed in chromo-lithography and with various success. One or two of them—we may as well instance the subject called 'Indian Courtship'—do not rise much higher than the blue, scarlet, and amber coloured pictures with which the scrap-book of Genius in a pinafore is filled.—Even these, however, have character; while the 'Mission Chapel of San José, near San Antonio, Texas,' may be singled out as a favourable specimen of an art in which the delicacies and difficulties are so numerous as almost to preclude the possibility of an easy, entire success. Be they better or be they worse, however,—and somewhat flagrant as they must necessarily be,—these illustrations are still more acceptable than a library of modish gentlewomen looking delightfully with all their might—or than most of the collections of "Gems," "Buds," "Blossoms," "Garlands," &c. &c., under which the critic's table has been accustomed to groan at this period of the year.—In like measure, and on like grounds, do we recognize the letter-press as containing matter of genuine interest. Mrs. Eastman may not take literary rank with a Cooper, an Irving, a Hawthorne,—but she writes pleasingly because she has something to say. Her verse, too, has a charm akin to that of the verses which diversify the prose pages of Wilson's 'American Ornithology.'—The follow-

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ing, without rich or rare poetical merit, nevertheless reminds us of those breathings of the woods and deserts which fill the narrow yet not lifeless pages of the book of aboriginal poetry.

The Wood Spirits and the Maiden.

Day with its gorgeous light passes away,
Shadows of coming night darken the way.
Who is the wanderer
With the long braided hair?
'Mid the tall evergreens,
She like a fairy seems;
Know ye the maiden young,
Wood Spirits, say?

Know we the maiden young—mark well her form,
Like the tall pine tree, when rages the storm.
How like the dark bird's wing
Glistens her braided hair.
When watching o'er her birth,
Sang we a song of earth,
We were her guardians made,
She was our child.

Soon o'er her body cold chaunt we her funeral hymn,
Wild branches, torn and old, timing the requiem.
Why does she wander here,
With the long braided hair?
Why is the maiden pale—
Why does her breathing fail?
Now by the moonbeams fair,
See her dimmed eye.

She loved as maiden loves, she wept as woman weeps.
Soon will her restless frame sleep where her lover sleeps.
Then to our far-off groves
Will we her spirit bear.
When heaves her parting sigh,
When closed her lustrous eye,
We will her guardians be,—
She is our child.

We are all the more cordially disposed towards truth and simplicity from fancying these old-world graces to be in no ordinary danger just at present. Turn, for instance, to the two pages filled with a contribution called "Different Impressions," by our old friend and favourite Miss Bremer. She, good lady, seems of late increasingly resolute to become profound and transcendental; and the generous and enlarged or philanthropic sentiments which she now finds it necessary to produce on all occasions and in all companies (as it were) are bringing her to a state not unlike that of the travelling gentlewoman in one of her own tales, who was perpetually on the look out for mysterious and affecting things, and very fine phrases, to be written "to her sister at Haparanda."—To return, however, and conclude,—enough has been said to indicate in what manner and to what degree we conceive 'The Iris' commendable.

M. Tullii Ciceronis Orationes. With a Commentary. Vol. I. *Verrinarum Libri Septem.* By George Long. Whittaker & Co.

Several months have elapsed since the public were first apprised of the projected publication of a series of Greek and Latin classics, under the title of 'Bibliotheca Classica,' edited by some of our most distinguished scholars; the whole being subject to the superintendence of Mr. George Long and the Rev. A. J. Macleane. The volume before us is an auspicious commencement of the undertaking. Editions of Herodotus, Homer, Horace, and Tacitus are now in course of preparation, and will shortly be published. The works of other classical authors are to follow at intervals, with as much regularity as circumstances will permit. We regard the enterprise with great satisfaction, and wish it every success. If fully carried out, it will go far—in conjunction with our modern dictionaries of classical antiquities, biography and mythology, and our histories of Greece and Grecian literature—to wipe off the national reproach of depending upon Germany for our knowledge of ancient Greece and Rome. There is no reason why this country should be contented with mere reprints of German texts of the classics, and translations of German notes upon them. It has not been owing to any want of scholarship among us so much as to a want of proper energy and spirit that this system of borrowing from our neighbours has been carried on to so great an extent. We trust the success of the 'Bibliotheca Classica' will completely remove all suspicion of either one want or the other.

Mr. Long's reputation both as a scholar and an editor invests his name with high authority. Perhaps no man in this country is better qualified to prepare a good edition of that portion of the ancient classics which he has here presented to the public. Some may be found not inferior to him in point of general classical attainments,—but few at the same time as well furnished with technical knowledge. He is a lawyer as well as a classical scholar. For years he has made the whole system of Roman law his favourite study. Those who are in the habit of consulting Smith's 'Dictionary of Antiquities' need not be told that his numerous and valuable contributions on this subject form a most important addition to our previous knowledge. There is an abundance of such information in the notes to this edition of Cicero's Verrine orations. Mr. Long has also furnished several *excursus*, in which he discusses more fully other points essential to a right understanding of Cicero's orations. These *excursus*, though perhaps too elaborate for very young persons, will be read with interest and advantage by more advanced students. They are rendered all the more useful by the practical observations which they contain on modern law. In an *excursus* upon *Judicia*—after detailing the disputes which occurred at different times in Rome with regard to the appointment of *judices*, and noticing the prevalence of the custom of choosing private persons to decide civil causes—Mr. Long thus continues.—

"People, if left alone, can find out what they want better than any legislator; and there are few countries at the present day in which the old courts would not be soon superseded by something better suited to the wants of the people, if the free developement of a nation's activity was not fettered by those who hold power, and particularly by those who are interested in maintaining existing forms of procedure. In Rome the notion of justice, which is implanted in all people, and developed by their social progress, finally led the Romans to the transferring of the Officium Judicis to private persons, named for the occasion, and generally in each case to a single person. In certain cases, several Judices were appointed, under the name of Recuperatores, whose functions appear to have been limited to particular kinds of actions. * * It does not follow that all who were not specially excluded had the capacity of acting as Judex; and the Praetor might by virtue of the power of his office extend the exceptions. Yet the nature of the institution of a Judex seems to require that there should be the freest possible selection of persons; and this was particularly so in the case of that class of Judices who were called Arbitri (see Cicero Pro Rosc. Com. c. 4 and Top. 17); and apparently in the case of Recuperatores also. There were two classes of Arbitri; and one class were those who by the Formula were empowered to decide what one party should do or make good to another 'ex fide bona,' or 'quantum aequius melius id dari,' or 'ut inter bonos agier oportet.' This class of actions was finally comprehended under the name of 'bonae fidei judicia.' The Romans had a tact for legal precision; but they had likewise a nice sense of what is just. They knew that many of the transactions of life cannot be bound down to the rigid formulae of a legal rule. Our legal formalists can see nothing beyond the narrow circle within which they intrench themselves. If the case in hand does not fit their formula, no legal redress for a wrong which the common understanding (communis sensus) of mankind pronounces to be wrong, no legal establishment of a right, which the like sense pronounces to be one. By means of their 'bonae fidei judicia,' the Romans kept a mean between the refusal of justice and the laxity of no legal rule. Their law existed less in the written text than in the understanding of the people, the true depository of a large part of law, and that mainly which relates to the multifarious concerns of life which come under the legal denomination of Contracts, or the popular and wider term of Agreements."

Under the head of 'Edicta Magistratuum' we find these excellent remarks.—

"The Lex Aebutia, which is of uncertain date, introduced a new mode of procedure, according to which the claims of a party were drawn up by the Praetor in a written formula, the terms of which were independent of the words of any Lex. The Praetor being thus freed from the ancient forms was enabled to grant actions, which could not be founded on the Jus Civile or the strict law (Gaius, iv. 11), and in this way a class of Actiones called Honorariae, from the honour or office of the Praetor, was introduced. To allow a right of action in cases where no such right has existed, is the same thing as to acknowledge a new right; for a right of action implies the existence of a previous right, or the existence of a wrong or legal injury. It is not to be supposed that a Praetor arbitrarily allowed new rights of action. He was merely the organ to declare what already existed in the common understanding of the people,—the consciousness of a want and the necessity of a remedy. The Praetor in many cases, while he framed his formula with reference to some old-established rule of law, gave it a wider application. He could direct the Judex to decide in a given case as if certain facts existed which did not exist,—a mode of proceeding which might lead to great abuse in unskilful hands, but might be made useful and just when the purpose of the Magistratus was honest and the law was defective. For the Roman Law must not be viewed as modern systems of law may be, which are the results of the experience of past ages. The Romans had to create what they wanted, and all that we have here to consider is the way in which they satisfied their wants. Circumstances might and did occur, for instance, in which a man was not owner of a thing according to the Jus Civile or strict Roman law, but he was owner so far as concerned the justice of his claim. He might have done all that was necessary to acquire the ownership of a thing, except the observance of some form which the Jus Civile required; and the Praetor might direct the Judex, if he found the facts of the case to be such as stated in the formula, to consider him as owner and decide accordingly, just as if the person had acquired the thing in such a way as would have made him owner by the Jus Civile. This mode of treating a given case, as if it were in all respects conformable to another case, to which certain rules of law are applicable, is what the Romans call Fictio. Some modern writers who have made themselves merry over legal fictions, have been more merry than wise. A legal Fiction may be a bad figment or a good one. When it is a good one, it accomplishes its object: it satisfies a want and a necessity. He who by virtue of his office is able to become the interpreter of the common understanding of the people, takes from the people, whose activity is the real generator of law, a material to which his skill gives the proper form and his office the due authority. He legislates in a sense, and is generally a better legislator than a large body of men called a Legislature. How long a Fiction should be allowed to subsist after it has indicated a social want, and shown how it is to be supplied, is a different question. The direct mode of supplying such a want is by legislation, by the act of a sovereign person, or of a number of persons possessed of sovereign power, or who have power delegated to them for that purpose: this is properly called Legislation, the establishment of new rules of law by Statutes, or by Leges, as the Romans called them. The Lex Aebutia also gave the Praetor the power of assisting a defendant by means of the formula. The simplest defence is a denial of a plaintiff's claim, who must then prove it. But the claim of the plaintiff in itself may be undeniable, and yet there may be some fact that is sufficient to nullify it. The Praetor in his formula could instruct the Judex to decide in favour of the defendant, not only if the claim of the plaintiff could not be established, but also if the fact or facts which the defendant alleged as a sufficient answer to the plaintiff's demand should be established by him. This fact, or these facts, which are an answer to a demand which otherwise would be a valid demand, are an Exceptio, an answer

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or plea: and this Exceptio protected the defendant against a demand which was valid by the Jus Civile, whenever the Praetor thought fit to give the Exceptio this effect. Here also the Praetor did not act arbitrarily. He would only allow an Exceptio when common opinion had already pronounced in some way that it ought to be allowed, or when the case was such that common opinion could not fail to acquiesce in the rule which had its first distinct expression through the organ of the Praetor. This mode of proceeding, this growth of law out of popular opinion, is neither uncertain nor capricious in those matters which relate to the usual transactions of life. A people will often be bad judges of the logical consequences which flow from an established rule of law; but their sense of justice is clear enough to show them when a new rule of law is wanted, and what it should be. It is the business of one who is expert in Law to give to the rule such a form that it shall be fitted to accomplish its purpose."

The professional knowledge and practical wisdom exhibited in the above extracts are discernible throughout the rest of the book. In the notes may be found critical observations on the readings of the text, explanations of technical and idiomatic expressions, valuable remarks on the derivations of words, and translations of difficult passages, with useful references to other writers, both ancient and modern. We hardly know which to admire most, the great learning, the acute observation, or the sound judgment which everywhere strikes our attention. Mr. Long is no pedant. He does not waste words on scholastic trivialities. If a passage is difficult even to him, he does not, like many annotators, attempt to disguise the fact by putting off the reader with a laboured translation which may mean anything or nothing. He can afford to be candid in his confessions;—and we are glad to find him setting so good an example. His hesitation on some few minor points gives all the more weight to the rest of his statements.

The text of this edition differs less from that of Zumpt's edition of 1831 than any other. It was originally the editor's intention to give Zumpt's text just as it stands, and merely accompany it with notes. But finding, on examination, that he could not adopt any one text, he determined to form one of his own, though at the cost of much labour. Even now he considers the text of these orations as not finally settled. Among other amendments on previous editions published in this country, he has much improved the punctuation.—The Introduction contains an interesting account of the circumstances which led to the composition of the orations.

We hope the remaining works of this series may be worthy of the first. In that case, the publication of the 'Bibliotheca Classica' will be an event worth remembering among the other memorable events of this remarkable year.

History of England from the Peace of Utrecht. By Lord Mahon. Vols. V. and VI. Murray.

THE present volumes of Lord Mahon's work contain a history of England during seventeen years. The early part of George the Third's reign is a period little known. We of this generation are cut off from it by the gulf of we know not how many revolutions—American, French, German, Spanish, Polish, Greek, Dutch, Danish, Italian, Hungarian,—by wars and combinations of a magnitude before unknown in the modern life of Europe,—by the opening of a new era of thought, sentiment, political action and moral progress in both hemispheres. Yet those early years constitute a period of curious and profound—if not grand and dramatic—interest for all Englishmen. Our present forms of government were then definitively fixed. The spirit of electoral reform was then first evoked. The power of the ruling families was then shaken. The Commons then made large advances towards supremacy in the legislature. Then, our Indian empire was won. Then, the troubles with our American colonies—out of which emerged an Empire Republic—arose. During that time, England entered into the course of material developements which has not only changed the outward aspect of the country but effected prodigious results in the moral and physical character of the population. It is a common saying, that the history of the world began again at the Revolution in France; but the man who should content himself with that movement as a point of departure, even in his studies of French history, would have a most confused idea of the causes and relations of subsequent events. For Englishmen there can be but little doubt that the years here traversed by Lord Mahon constitute some of the most important in our historical series.

Looking at the period in question, not as it presented itself in daily detail to Chatham or to Burke, but in its entire aspect and meaning, it seems to separate itself, as it were, for historical review into three grand divisions:—the succession of ministerial and political events,—the rise and earlier vicissitudes of the American war,—and the literary, social, and material progress of the people in town and country. On all these points the materials exist in abundance. The reader may search the Chatham, Bedford, Walpole, Burke, and other "memoirs" and "correspondence" for the first,—the Washington papers, the Ministerial correspondence preserved in our State Paper Office, the Franklin, Jefferson, Adams, and multitudinous other lives and letters, English and American, including the volumes of the Massachusetts, the Pennsylvania and other Historical Societies, for the second,—court diaries, manuals of commerce, almanacks, lives of men like Brindley, Gibbon, Watt and Adam Smith, the chronicle department of the 'Annual Register,' files of the 'Gazetteer,' 'Public Advertiser,' and other newspapers, together with the fugitive writings of Fielding, Johnson, Wilkes, Churchill, and the legion of satirists and pamphleteers, for the third.

But Lord Mahon is too timid—too conventionally respectable—for such a work. What he has done on a large scale, he has done well enough:—just as might be expected from his culture and his political leaning. The tangled web of court and ministerial intrigue is unravelled, exhibited, and knitted up again by him with a minute dexterity to which works like that of Mr. Adolphus can make no pretension. The origin and progress of discontent in America, as they appear to one having no sympathy with revolutions, are traced with a copious preciseness, and in the new light of a purely English—without being a high Tory—point of view. The other—perhaps the most essential—part of the historian's task Lord Mahon has gone over in an extremely brief, vague and unsatisfactory manner. With the exception of a short chapter on literature and art placed, in the manner of Hume, at the end of his work, as if these subjects had only an incidental and altogether subsidiary connexion with the history of the time, some eight or nine pages are all that he devotes out of nearly eleven hundred to the entire range of topics embraced in the term "social history." Lord Mahon says little or nothing about the crime and criminals of the country, though the records of these are so curious, copious and interesting,—the penal legislation, which during the seventeen years here treated of took so dark, savage and repressive a course in England,—the humane labours of such men as John Howard and Jonas Hanway,—the state of education, habits of life, manners and opinions of the great masses of the population. No doubt, it would be a laborious work to master all the necessary matter for such a portraiture of the moral and material life of the country at that time as we are here suggesting. The writer would have to seek his matter, too, at many unpleasant sources:—Newgate records—old books on debtors' prisons—obscene tracts—squibs and satires—many of them little interesting, and nearly all gross and offensive to nice taste, but yet invaluable for their facts and inferences. When Mr. Macaulay tells his readers that he is ashamed to say how low down in the depths of trash and indecency he has had to dig for his matter, he states a necessity common to every writer of research. It is from such sources even more than from the quarries of court intrigue and parliamentary warfare that the skilful analyst extracts the materials of his historical edifice. Lord Mahon has shunned this part of his task, as beyond either his tastes or his strength.—There is no denying that he has usage on his side.

The political narrative here given—including the Wilkes troubles, the last administration, retirement and death of Chatham, the story of the Grenville, Rockingham, Grafton and North ministries—is so far as it goes a useful addition to our historical library. Lord Mahon has had the opportunity of consulting many MSS.:—including the Grenville papers, a memoir of the Duke of Grafton, and Sir James Mackintosh's copies of letters written by George the Third to Lord North.

The story of these volumes opens with the waning of Lord Bute's fortunes. Grenville succeeded, on his fall, to the office of Premier. His chief colleagues were—Lord Egremont, "proud, self-sufficient, and incapable," wrote Chesterfield,—and Lord Halifax, described by the same excellent judge of men as one who had "parts, application and personal disinterestedness." Their administration is known in history by two of the most signal blunders ever made by statesmen:—the issuing General Warrants even without the old formality of an oath,—and the attempt to tax the American colonies without their consent and in the absence of any just representation. The case of Wilkes is dwelt on at considerable length by Lord Mahon,—as was indeed indispensable to a correct understanding of those times. Of course, the sedate noble of the nineteenth has no sympathy with the demagogue of the eighteenth century. He rather takes pleasure in bringing out the less reputable points of the latter's character and career. Thus we find Wilkes introduced to the reader's acquaintance.—

"He was born in 1727, the son of a rich distiller. Early in life he set up a brewery for himself, but soon relinquished the wearisome business. Early in life also he improved his fortune by his marriage with the daughter and heiress of the celebrated Dr. Mead, the author of the 'Treatise on Poisons.' But this lady, being of maturer age than himself, and of slight personal attractions, was speedily slighted, and he left her with as much disgust as he had his brewery. In 1757 he was elected Member of Parliament for Aylesbury, but never obtained any success as an orator, his speeches being, though flippant, yet feeble. In truth he had no great ability of any kind, but dauntless courage and high animal spirits. Nor should we deny him another much rarer praise,—a vein of good humour and kindliness which did not forsake him through all his long career, amidst the riot of debauchery or the rancour of faction. So agreeable and insinuating was his conversation that more than one fair dame as she listened found herself forget his sinister squint and his ill-favoured countenance. He used to say of himself in a laughing strain, that though he was the ugliest man in England, he wanted nothing to make him even with the handsomest but half an hour at

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starting! Politics indeed seemed at first wholly alien from Wilkes's sphere; gaiety and gallantry were his peculiar objects. For some time he reigned the oracle of green-rooms and the delight of taverns. In conjunction with other kindred spirits, as Paul Whitehead and Sir Francis Dashwood, amounting in all to twelve, he rented Medmenham Abbey, near Marlow. It is a secluded and beautiful spot on the banks of the Thames, with hanging woods that slope down to the crystal stream, a grove of venerable elms, and meadows of the softest green. In days of old it had been a convent of Cistercian monks, but the new brotherhood took the title of Franciscans in compliment to Sir Francis Dashwood, whom they called their Father Abbot. On the portal, now again in ruins, and once more resigned to its former solitude and silence, I could still a few years since read the inscription placed there by Wilkes and his friends: *fay ce que voudras*. Other French and Latin inscriptions, now with good reason effaced, then appeared in other parts of the grounds, some of them remarkable for wit, but all for either profaneness or obscenity, and many the more highly applauded as combining both. In this retreat the new Franciscans used often to meet for summer pastimes, and varied the round of their debauchery by a mock celebration of the principal Roman Catholic rites."

There is more in this statement than we dare warrant. As Wilkes proceeded with a private tutor from school to Leyden, and afterwards travelled on the Continent—returned to England in 1749, while in the twenty-second year of his age, and was in that same year married to the great heiress, we doubt the preliminary brewery business; and, unless her own daughter was in error, we must believe that Mrs. Wilkes was not the daughter of Dr. *Richard* Mead, but of *William* Mead, drysalter, whose house of business had been on London Bridge.

John Wilkes, though he did good work in his time, is scarcely likely to be claimed as a hero by anybody in this day, unless his resolute will should recommend him to the sympathies of Mr. Carlyle. He was a vain, obstinate, clever, unprincipled man. But with all his faults—which he wore openly on his sleeve, — we cannot agree with Lord Mahon in his sweeping condemnation of the great popular constituency that four several times returned him, in spite of so many expulsions from the House of Commons, member for Middlesex. No doubt, the Ministry was in an awkward position; for the King—though Lord Mahon gives no prominence to the fact—was resolved not to allow Wilkes to take his seat, and the House of Commons—in spite of the protests of men like Burke and Chatham—had repeatedly exhibited a similar determination. Still, there can be no doubt that it was the first duty of the Ministers to cause the constitution of the land to be respected. Their excuse was lame to the last degree. They could easily, of course, find precedents for expelling a member disabled by law; and the King himself suggested to them the case of John Ward, who had been expelled in 1727 for forgery! But, as Lord Mahon very properly observes, the cases were entirely different. Ward's disability arose out of a positive violation of the law,—Wilkes's from a mere vote of the House of Commons. But the expulsion itself became a secondary question after the open and flagrant violation of all law, and even of the great Charter itself, in declaring Colonel Luttrell "duly elected," contrary to the return of the sheriffs—contrary to the fact that Wilkes had 1,143 votes, while only 296 were given for Luttrell; and it is but poor consolation to know that in 1782 the House consented, on the motion of Wilkes himself, to expunge such Resolution from its Journals.

Of Wilkes's arrest and prosecution, by order of the House of Lords, on the motion of his roystering companion of Medmenham, Lord Sandwich, the historian gives this account.—

"It appears that Wilkes had, several years before, and in some of his looser hours, composed a parody of Pope's 'Essay on Man.' In this undertaking which, according to his own account, cost him a great deal of pains and time, he was, it is said, assisted by Thomas Potter, second son of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, who had been Secretary of Frederick Prince of Wales, and had since shown ability and gained office in the House of Commons, but was (as well became one of Wilkes's friends) of lax morals in his private life. The result of their joint authorship, however, has little wit or talent to make any amends for the blasphemy and lewdness with which it abounds. As the original had been inscribed by Pope to Lord Bolingbroke, so was the parody by Wilkes to Lord Sandwich; thus it began, 'Awake my Sandwich!' instead of 'Awake my St. John!' Thus also, in ridicule of Warburton's well-known commentary, some burlesque notes were appended in the name of the Right Reverend the Bishop of Gloucester. This worthless poem had remained in manuscript, and lain in Wilkes's desk, until in the previous spring he had occasion to set up a press at his own house, and was tempted to print fourteen copies only as presents to his boon companions. Of one of these copies the Government obtained possession, through a subordinate agent, and by not very creditable means, and Lord Sandwich holding it forth in his hand with the air of injured innocence denounced it as not only scandalous and impious, but also as a breach of Privilege against the Bishop as a Peer of Parliament. He likewise complained of another profane parody, written by the same hand, and printed on the same occasion; this last was entitled, 'The VENI CREATOR paraphrased.'—The most offensive passages of both were now by Lord Sandwich's order read aloud to the House, until Lord Lyttleton with a groan entreated that they might hear no more! In the discussion which ensued Bishop Warburton, forgetting that such ribaldries could not really tarnish his character, showed a heat which little became it. He exclaimed that the blackest fiends in Hell would disdain to keep company with Wilkes,—and then asked pardon of Satan for comparing them together! Both the Earl and Bishop in their passion would have readily over-leaped the common forms of justice. The former, after producing evidence at the Bar as to the authorship of Wilkes, wished the House to take measures for his prosecution without the least delay. But the Peers, although readily agreeing to vote the two parodies blasphemous and breaches of Privilege, resolved, on the motion of Lord Mansfield, to adjourn all further questions until the day after the next, so as to give Wilkes the opportunity, if he desired it, of alleging any matter in denial or defence. While these things were transacting in the Lords, Horace Walpole, as a Member of the House of Commons, happened to hear of them, and going up to Pitt, with whom he was dividing in the lobby, told him what had passed,—how, as it seemed, the Government had been ransacking Wilkes's desk in search of libels. Pitt replied, with just indignation: 'Why do they not search the Bishop of Gloucester's study for heresy?'"

Here, again, we are not prepared to vouch for the perfect accuracy of Lord Mahon's statement. As his Lordship observes, very few copies of the work were printed;—the original edition is therefore scarce. Indeed, to find the true Simon Impure requires long research, and in the very dirtiest of our literary kennels; and if his lordship had not illustrated his judgment by particular references, we should have come to the conclusion that, like so many other writers, he had founded his judgment on report, and not on examination. As it is, we will only venture to say that the Parody, when *we* saw it, was *not* "inscribed" to Lord Sandwich, and did not begin with "Awake my Sandwich."

By their own folly and stupidity, the Ministers made a martyr of Wilkes. Left alone, he could not have seriously troubled their repose. Their imbecile tyranny caused all the sense, manliness and liberal feeling existing in the middle and lower classes to rally round him as a man in whose person they found their own rights and privileges menaced. Walpole relates that public indignation was instantly transferred from the poem to its denouncers—and especially to Lord Sandwich.—

"A few days after the opening scene in the House of Lords a strong proof of the popular sentiment was given at Covent Garden Theatre as the Beggar's Opera was acting. When Macheath came to the words 'That Jemmy Twitcher should peach I own surprises me,'—the whole audience with one unanimous shout of applause marked the application."

The nick-name stuck to him through life, and is still preserved in many of the satirical poems of that day:—as, for instance, in Gray's lampoon, where *Divinity* says to him:—

Never hang down your head, you poor penitent elf:
Come, kiss me,—I'll be Mrs. Twitcher myself!

A curious incident in connexion with the Wilkes affair was, the rebuke administered to Blackstone—then member for Westbury—by Mr. Grenville. The famous Commentator recollecting "that he had a place to preserve, though he forgot that he had a reputation to lose,"—spoke strongly against Wilkes's right to his seat in the House:—and Grenville answered him by a passage from his own work! This retort led Junius to say, in his stinging way:—"For the defence of truth, of law and reason, the doctor's book may be safely consulted; but whoever wishes to cheat a neighbour of his estate, or to rob a country of its rights, need make no scruple of consulting the doctor himself."

Speaking of *Junius*,—Lord Mahon of course devotes some pages to the discussion of this literary mystery; and he gives it as his unhesitating belief, that the substance of that famous shadow is none other than Sir Philip Francis. Lord Mahon seems also to be of opinion that all the letters signed Atticus, Mnemon, Lucius and Brutus are from the same pen as those signed Junius. Lord Mahon advances no new facts in favour of the claim made for Sir Philip Francis. Indeed, he does not really argue the point, and almost contents himself with the summary expression of a personal opinion. "I will not affect," he says, "to speak with doubt when no doubt exists in my mind. From the proofs adduced by others, and on a clear conviction of my own, I affirm that the author of Junius was no other than Sir Philip Francis." This seems a somewhat easy and magisterial way of settling a difficulty. With regard to the "clear conviction" of Lord Mahon's own mind, we think we have a right to ask him for the special grounds on which it is formed,—because on any known to us, such a declaration of faith, after all that has been written on this subject, would seem to argue an incapacity for dealing with the plain results of evidence. Until the historian shall condescend to tell us what are the "proofs adduced by others" to which he refers, we can of course form no notion of the new elements which these may import into the question:—but in so far as this phrase relates to additional evidence furnished by the Grenville Papers, we may observe that those documents will soon be before us in a published form, and we shall then have the opportunity of seeing what further support they lend to the hypothesis in which Lord Mahon pronounces himself to be so undoubting a believer. Meanwhile, having been ourselves permitted to examine what are called "the letters of Junius," found amongst the Stowe Papers—that is to say, certain letters believed to be in the handwriting of Junius, and, "not all" as Lord Mahon states, but two out of three signed "C,"—we venture to say, that they do not contain one sentence, one expression, one word, which the most ingenious of sophists could make to bear on the question whether Francis was or was not the writer. Further, we happen to know, that

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the editor of the Stowe Papers—who, it must be presumed, is as well acquainted with them as Lord Mahon—has come to a different conclusion. Of course, as we stated long since, the writer of one of those letters claims therein to be the author of a letter signed "Atticus," of which he forwarded a copy, cut from the newspapers. Does this prove him to have been the writer of all the letters signed "Atticus"? Does Lord Mahon know the extent of such a claim—the absurdities and contradictions which it involves?

The foreign affairs of the period here treated are passed over somewhat meagrely. Even the dismemberment of Poland excites in Lord Mahon no glow of feeling—calls forth no expression of indignation.—

"The Court of St. James's [he says] can scarcely, as it seems to me, be blamed in abstaining from hostile measures, and coldly acquiescing in the partition of Poland. To do otherwise England must have reversed her whole previous policy, and sought alliance with the sovereigns of the Family Compact, Louis the Fifteenth and Charles the Third. She must have relied upon, and acted with, the object Ministry of Madame Du Barry. She must have renounced the hope, on which at that time her abiest statesmen set the utmost value, of a close alliance with the Court of Russia. And if we could not take part in the conflict frankly and directly, still less could we do so indirectly; still less was it consistent with our dignity and honour, while courses remaining inactive, to fan the flames of war between Turkey and Russia, as our ambassador at Constantinople attempted at one moment contrary to his instructions."

George the Third and the Earl of Chatham are intended to be Lord Mahon's two heroic figures:—but the first is a complete failure. The noble historian can scarcely find words sufficiently warm to express his admiration of a prince who, as Byron sang—

"ever warred with freedom and the free;
Nations as men, home subjects, foreign foes,
So that they muttered the word Liberty.

—The figure of the elder Pitt stands out more boldly and more worthily from the canvas.

Among minor characters, that of Wedderburn is well drawn. Churchill's severe lines on this Scotch lawyer, beginning—

A part prim grater of the northern race,
Guilt in his heart and famine in his face,
Mute at the Bar and in the Senate loud—

were applied to him in the early part of his career; but Junius at a later period painted him in one of his most trenchant lines:—"As for Mr. Wedderburn, there is something about him which even treachery cannot trust." Lord Mahon strikes a sort of balance between his good and his bad qualities.—

"He had the rare gift of speaking speciously on any side of any question; his stock of learning, if not vast, was at least sufficient and ever at command; and he would have been upon the whole a great man were it possible to be so without some share of public virtue. But public virtue was in him altogether wanting. In political affairs, such at least is my own firm belief, he looked most to the merits of the question, but solely and singly to his prospect of deriving from it some personal advantage. Nor can it with truth be pleaded that Wedderburn sought high office merely as affording a wider scope of public usefulness. On the contrary, he might be charged with a love of ostentatious splendour. He told the Earl of Harrington that on the very day he became Solicitor General he had ordered a service of plate which cost him 8,000l. He appears to have charged his political associates to and fro with little concern. Indeed a character so cold and selfish could scarce be expected to glow with any ardour of private friendship, and though he loved society he never shone in it. 'What can he mean,' cried Foote, 'by coming among us? He is not only dull himself but the cause of dullness in others.'—I never heard anything from him that was at all striking,' said Dr. Johnson to Boswell. But he deserves this high praise, that to men of genius he was uniformly kind. He always acknowledged fully their claim to public respect, and on several important occasions joined with them clearly on the other side in politics, he showed himself the enlightened and generous protector of literary merit."

Of Thurlow we have a more finished and engaging portrait:—but here we must pause. A considerable portion of Lord Mahon's volumes, as we have already intimated, is occupied with the familiar story of the American War; but beyond the novelty of his point of view there is nothing in the story calling for special remark at our hands.

Neuralgia: its various Forms, Pathology, and Treatment. By C. Toogood Downing, M.D. Churchill.

Dr. Downing was the successful competitor for the Jacksonian prize of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in the year 1850. Its subject was, those painful affections of the nerves which, not being attended with inflammation or other organic change, have been called Neuralgia. Although this term was at one time confined to the most intensely painful disorders of the nerves, such as *tic doloureux*, it is now applied so generally as to embrace all affections in which the nerves indicate the slightest exaltation of their sensitiveness or function. These disorders are very painful, and frequently resist the best devised systems of cure. This arises probably from their causes being misunderstood,—the true nature of the departure from health on the part of the nerve affected being entirely unknown. So long as the intimate structure and function of the nerves shall be so little known as they are at present we cannot expect to find a remedy for all the derangements of these important organs.

The researches, however, of both anatomists and pathologists are constantly revealing new facts which serve as materials for the better elucidation of such diseases as neuralgia. It has been the object of Dr. Downing in the work before us to bring to bear the scattered facts of physiology and morbid anatomy on the investigation of the nature and proper treatment of this disease. He does not come forward vauntingly to introduce a new method of cure,—but he gives the result of a treatment which has been successful in his own hands,—and which from all that we can see is not open to any reasonable objection. This treatment consists in the application of the vapour of water to the part affected, by means of an apparatus of Dr. Downing's own invention. —The book is not written, however, for the purpose of introducing this method of treatment. That subject is subsidiary to a large amount of very useful information which the author has collected with diligence and arranged with skill on the subject of neuralgic diseases. The varieties of this disease—as, the rheumatic, the spasmodic, and the hysterical,—with their special developements in all the more prominent nerves of the body, are fully described:—whilst the causes of the various methods of treatment are all so completely and ably discussed, that we know of no work which can be compared to this on the subject to which it is devoted.—We doubt not that it will become a standard work of reference among professional men.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

"Common Sense" on the Domestic Habits of the People. With six Illustrations by George Cruikshank.—This is a reprint of letters which have appeared in some of the Scottish papers, with, possibly, the addition of new matter. Their writer's praiseworthy object is to protest against the desolation and wretchedness wrought among our lower classes by drunkenness,—and to recommend, among other remedial measures, a re-arrangement of the time at which workmen's wages have been so long paid. He would have masters distribute their money in the middle of the week, and men, in all practicable cases, have a portion of the Saturday to be added by way of holiday to the next day's Sabbath. These arguments, and the fearful examples of degradation and crime by which they are enforced (principally gathered among the population of Glasgow), are further struck home by half-a-dozen illustrations, in which Mr. Cruikshank may be said to repent, with some alterations, his forcible, though coarse, homily of 'The Bottle.'—Though some of the statements and recommendations of 'Common Sense' may be open to remark as savouring of exaggeration, the meaning of his letters is too sound, and their matter is generally too striking, not to recommend them to those whose field of labour is amongst the poor.

City Men and City Manners.—This is an enlarged reprint of a little volume under the above title which appeared some time since. The sketches are on the whole fairly written; but neither the information nor the description rises above the level of ordinary newspaper paragraphs.

A Guide through and around Bath, for the use of such as are desirous to see of the place—the most possible, in a time—the least possible. By Indicator. —Shade of Antsey!—is it possible that thy exquisite 'Bath Guide,' so long the delight of ancient lords and dames, the envy of poetizers and literary fops, should be allowed by vulgarity like this,—innocent of Lindley Murray and guilty of Holywell Street!

What shall we do with Smithfield? By an Old Sanitary Reformer.—The "Old Sanitary Reformer" professes to show the Corporation of the City how they can add some thirty thousand pounds to their yearly revenue by accepting the offer made to them by Parliament to construct a new cattle-market out of town, and to erect public markets, a park or gardens, baths, wash houses, &c., on the site of Smithfield. Certain estimates are given, but we have no means of testing their correctness.

Du Bourg; or, the Mercurialc: a Sketch of the Secret Church of Paris in the Middle of the Eighteenth Century. By A. S. Barber.—The Mercurialc, a Court so called from the circumstance of its meeting on Wednesdays, was charged with the inquisition of morals in the other Courts and Parliaments of France; but political and religious offences came also within its jurisdiction, and its career was for a time not unlike that of our own Star Chamber. Such a Court must of course furnish many rich materials for the historical romance writer: but Mr., Miss, or Mrs. Barber possesses no power to call to new life the dim shades of by-gone heroes. The story of 'Du Bourg,' half-historical half-romantic, is not well told; and the doctrinal points are dwelt on at tiresome length for a tale, in a very vague and superficial way for a book of serious controversy.

Treatise on Political Economy. By George Opdyke.—Mr. Opdyke is an American, and his book reaches us from New York. We are told in the preface that the author undertook to investigate the science of political economy entirely from the resources of his own reason and observation,—"not by consulting elaborate works" on the subject; and a claim is put forward on behalf of the present publication as being to a great extent "an original inquiry." This claim is altogether without foundation. Mr. Opdyke is quite incompetent to undertake the re-construction of political economy as a distinct branch of knowledge; and the faults of his book are precisely those which might be expected from the efforts of a man of limited powers endeavouring to master without aid the intricacies of a score of difficult questions. Mr. Opdyke's nomenclature is uncouth and incorrect,—and his reasonings are as often wrong as right. Starting without guides, he has gone in a false direction from the first, because he has very naturally failed to catch those nice and technical leading terms of the science which have been fully developed and established only by the labours of all the disciples of Adam Smith. At this time of day extemporized treatises on political economy are both unprofitable and mischievous:—and Mr. Opdyke's volume is the last and one of the strongest illustrations of this remark that has fallen under our notice. We do not mean to say that political economy as at present taught is perfect—far from it. But we say, that for any man to attempt to construct a new system before he is thoroughly acquainted with the old ones is a piece of mere folly.

Delineations of the Ox-Tribe; or, the Natural History of Bulls, Bisons, and Buffaloes. By George Vasey.—The genus Bos is one of those families of animals the species of which, being generally distributed over the earth and in many cases domesticated by man, have much puzzled the naturalist in his attempts to give to each kind its true character and relations with all the other members of the group. Mr. Vasey very properly states that what previous naturalists—as Buffon, Pennant, Goldsmith, Bewick, and Bingley—have written on the subject of the ox has not much pretension to scientific accuracy. It is a subject that would repay further investigation :—we are not at all satisfied that Mr. Vasey has cleared up all difficulties connected with it. He has done at least good service by collecting a large quantity of information :—and especially in supplying a series of delineations of the different species and varieties of the genus Bos. In addition to this, he has given the opinions of competent authorities, — made some original observations,—collected and collated the accounts of travellers,—and in two general chapters summed up what is known of the structure of these animals and of their utility to mankind. The book represents a great amount of useful work.

New Editions are sometimes perplexing things to those who have not old copies before them. Thus we dare do no more than announce the new edition of *Bon Gaultier's Ballads* profusely illustrated by Leech, A. Crowquill, and R. Doyle, (the last how rich when he is among the Orientals!) having no guide to tell us what ballads heretofore uncollected have been now added to the quaintly racy ditty of our Queen among "thae puddock pies" at Eu,—to the wonders of Astley's done into the Spanish metres which Mr. Lockhart made us love,—and to the clever imitations of the living poets :—which, by the way, are the best of their kind that have appeared since the 'Rejected Addresses.'

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THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

If the Greek adage Μεγα βιβλιον μεγα κακον applies more forcibly to one class of books than to another, it is to those popularly known by the name of "Blue Books," which are extensively produced by Parliament and by our Government offices. Their unrivalled dimensions alarm the general reader; who, however anxious he may be to inform himself of their contents, has perhaps neither time nor inclination to wade through the interminable evidence that forms the great bulk of their volumes. He therefore contents himself by reading the reports of the Committees,—on the faith that these will be faithful reflections of the evidence on which they profess to be based. If he is wise and has a real interest in the matter in hand, he will do no such thing. A little experience in examining for himself will show him that such reports are often coloured for particular purposes,—and that versions totally distinct may be got as the result of the same evidence by parties looking severally from different points of view.

We stated last week that the Admiralty had issued one of these Blue Books containing the report of a Committee appointed by them to investigate the late Arctic Expeditions ;—and, in fulfilment of the promise then made, we proceed now to offer our own comments on this extraordinary production. That a committee of five, all naval officers, some holding Admiralty appointments, should have signed a document which we consider to be quite unwarranted by the evidence accompanying it, is to us a matter of great astonishment,—and, considering the serious public interests involved, of great regret.

We will begin by quoting the principal features of this strange document. — Having examined Capt. Penny and his officers with reference to the search of Wellington Channel, the Committee report as follows.—

"We do not think Capt. Austin would have been justified in commencing a fresh search in a direction concerning which he naturally considered himself to have received such authentic information. * * We think, therefore, that Capt. Austin could *only* form his judgment on Mr. Penny's written communications;—which, although very laconic, were sufficiently explicit; and that under all the circumstances of the case, much weight is due to the feeling expressed by Capt. Austin in his evidence, that as Mr. Penny's Expedition was, equally with his own, equipped at the public expense and receiving its orders from the Admiralty, although independent of his authority, he considered himself bound to abide by the strongly expressed opinion of the officer who had by mutual agreement undertaken that particular portion of the search, that 'all had been done which it was in the power of man to accomplish.' * * We beg to remark that although Mr. Penny endeavours to draw a distinction between Wellington Strait and the channel to the north-west which he has since named Queen Victoria Channel, no such distinction appears in the track chart delivered by him to Capt. Austin at the time; and we therefore think that Capt. Austin could not be fairly expected to recognize any distinction between the upper and lower parts of this channel. * * It appears to have been under this impression, which we think Capt. Austin fully justified in entertaining, that, after finding Wellington Strait closed, the ice still presenting the same impenetrable barrier it had done in 1850, he decided on occupying the remainder of the navigable season in the examination of Jones's Sound; to which inlet his own instructions as well as Mr. Penny's directed attention, but which the latter had been unable to explore in the preceding season. * * We think that considerable benefit might have arisen, especially with reference to future operations in Wellington Strait, if one of the Expeditions had remained near the entrance about a fortnight longer, in order to obtain the latest information of the state of ice in that direction, and therefore the probable practicability of the navigation of this strait; and we think this might have been accomplished by Mr. Penny without involving any serious risk of being detained during the winter. But we are clearly of opinion that as no certain traces of Sir John Franklin's ships had been met with in any direction beyond their wintering place at Beechey Island, and no record of the route intended to be pursued by them could be discovered after the more diligent and repeated search (thus leaving this question a mere matter of conjecture), both Capt. Austin and Mr. Penny were fully justified by the tenor of their Lordships' instructions in not risking their detention in the ice during another winter :—and we beg to add that all the most experienced Arctic officers in both Expeditions appear to have unanimously concurred in opinion as to the expediency of returning to England. * * With respect to the results of the late Expeditions, as regards the search for the missing ships, on which their Lordships desire our opinion, we may remark that, in the first place, it is a matter of no small interest and importance to have ascertained with certainty the exact position in which they passed the winter of 1845-6; while the careful and minute exploration of the coast to the southward and westward by Capt. Ommanney and Lieut. M'Clintock without discovering any traces whatever of Sir John Franklin, would seem to afford a very strong presumption that he did not pass that way, and conjecture therefore naturally turns towards Wellington Strait, to which it is well known he had often looked, as affording one chance of a passage to the north-west, and which we see by Mr. Penny's account of his examination of the upper part of the channel appears to form at least a possible outlet in that direction."

This concludes the inculpatory and exculpatory portion of the Report. The remainder is occupied by the recommendation of a renewal of the search for the missing ships next spring—the main features of which we published last week,—and an important statement regarding the paper written by Adam Beck in the presence of Sir John Ross and Capt. Ommanney on the subject of the loss of the ships and the murder of the crews, with which our readers are familiar, and which from the first, on the ground of the terms which it was stated to contain, we called on our readers entirely to reject. It now turns out that Adam Beck's evidence was not in any respect to the effect claimed. The statement is, that the paper in question has been translated before the Committee by a Moravian missionary well acquainted with the Esquimaux language,—and has not a single word relating to any such catastrophe. It is as follows.—

"While I have been here there have been many ships. There were also many people upon the land. On the island there were but few native people. A good many show themselves when pleased. There were birds such as eider fowl. There were also other little birds that look white, that are found in the country, and also ravens; little ravens, and great ravens, and various birds mixed together. There is a little bird with red at the top of the head. The people here are few. And this is written by me from my heart.

"(Signed) John Ross, witness to the above being written by Adam Beck, on board H.M.S. Assistance, August 17, 1850.

"Erasmus Ommanney, witness to the above."

—This, then, is the document on the faith of which Admiral Sir John Ross volunteered his decided opinion of the destruction of Sir John Franklin and his party.—But there is no end to Sir John Ross's contradictions : — and his opinions shift about in a manner having quite a curious non-relation to the state of the evidence before him. In his examination now before us he says, that when an inquiry was instituted into Adam Beck's story, he believed, with Capt. Austin and his officers, that the Esquimaux "had been telling a story," and wrote home to that effect :—yet, being now asked "Do you continue to believe it to be true, that that occurrence [the massacre by the Esquimaux] took place?"—he answers "Most certainly I do" (!)—Really, it is difficult to deal with such evidence as seems by its own officers to be thought good enough for the Admiralty.

But, to return to the report.—The Committee affirm that "Capt. Austin could *only* form his judgment on Mr. Penny's written communications, and that he would not have been justified in commencing a fresh search in a direction concerning which he naturally considered himself to have received such authentic information."—Capt. Austin

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is then lauded for starting off to examine Jones's Sound,—to which inlet, say the Committee, "his own instructions directed attention."—Now, what will our readers think of the impartiality of this Committee when they are told that Capt. Austin's instructions enjoined him to search Wellington Channel (which he did not do)—and that Jones's Sound is not once mentioned in that document, the examination of it having been specially reserved for Capt. Penny, who, true to his orders, endeavoured to penetrate it, but was foiled by ice!—The Committee, it will be observed, lay great stress on Capt. Penny's letters as being the only channel through which Capt. Austin could form his judgment respecting the search of Wellington Channel and its outlets. It is desirable to show that although Capt. Austin is now willing and anxious to regard Capt. Penny's Expedition as issuing equally with his own from the Admiralty, he was careful to make a distinction when in the Arctic Regions. Writing to Commander De Haven of the United States Expedition, he says:—"I feel called upon by the position in which I am placed as the lawful representative of the Government of the country by which the Expedition was equipped, to propose that the Expedition so nobly sent forward by the United States of America, and the *mercantile* Expedition fitted out by the British Government and placed under the charge of Mr. Penny do," &c. &c. —Does Capt. Austin know the meaning of the word "mercantile"?—and did he not then know that Capt. Penny's Expedition had nothing whatever mercantile in its nature, but was proceeding like his own under Admiralty orders!

Notwithstanding the contemptuous coldness exhibited by Capt. Austin towards Capt. Penny, the latter very properly made the former acquainted with the principal circumstances of his exploration of Wellington Channel. This he did verbally,—for, as he modestly states, he is unused to official correspondence; and he adds:—"To a man like me, one conversation is worth fifty letters." On the 11th of August last, he went on board Capt. Austin's ship, the Resolute, accompanied by his second officer, Capt. Stewart; and had an interview with Capt. Austin in his cabin, there being no other person present; for Capt. Ommanney, who afterwards joined Capt. Austin, states that Capt. Penny had been there some time. What took place on that occasion we will leave Capt. Penny to tell in his own words.—

"I stated verbally to Capt. Austin, that it was my conviction that Sir John Franklin had gone through the strait leading north-west out of Wellington Channel (which I have named Victoria Channel), and that he had gone off in clear water, and that he was beyond our reach. I meant of course beyond the reach of my parties and my means. He did not seem disposed to credit my statement. I begged him to give me one of his steamers, and I would take the Sophia, and would act as pilot, and go up the channel and wait to see if the ice would clear away, that he would thus have the advantage of my practical experience. Capt. Austin declined this request, and went away. Late at night he wrote me a note, saying:—'Is Wellington Channel searched or is it not searched?' My reply in writing was, 'Sir, your question is easily answered. I did all in the power of man to do in Wellington Channel. It requires no further search.' I feel convinced that I have given the exact words I used, and I limited myself to the question he put to me. Capt. Austin is perfectly aware that I had previously put before him all the circumstances, and that I had discovered open water leading north-west out of Wellington Channel. The last thing I said was—'Go up into the Wellington Channel, and you will do good service to the cause.'"

When Capt. Penny was asked by the Committee whether he had "ever recommended Capt. Austin, in writing, to go up Wellington Strait?" He answered—"Certainly not. What was the use in writing when I was letting him know what I had done?"

How far Capt. Penny's statements are borne out by the witness present on this important occasion, let the following extract from Capt. Stewart's evidence attest.—

"After the Resolute came into Assistance Bay, I went on board with the chart, and Capt. Penny followed immediately afterwards. After they had looked over the chart, and Capt. Penny had explained to Capt. Austin where he had been, he asked Capt. Austin for a steamer. He said to him, 'You say we have been acting in concert. Let us prove the sincerity of that concert. Give me a steamer and with the little Sophia, I will go up 500 miles further.' Capt. Austin did not say 'No;' but he drew himself up—refused. I do not recollect the exact words he said; but it was a refusal. He said something, and Capt. Penny said, 'Then I know the truth of your sincerity, and I will have nothing more to do with you.' Then, Capt. Penny left immediately, but displeased and disappointed. This took place on the 11th of August, on board the Resolute."

To this strong testimony we may add that of Lieut. Aldrich,—who declares that "he heard people say that Capt. Penny had asked for a steamer, and that he told him he should ask." Mr. Goodsir states that he heard on the 12th of August that "Capt. Penny had applied for assistance with a steamer to proceed up the Wellington Channel." Commander Phillips states:—"Subsequent to the 25th of July 1851, Capt. Penny said to me, as he was going up the ladder, 'I shall ask Capt. Austin to put a steamer under my orders,' or words to that effect. I made no observation, because I knew there would be technical difficulties in the way." On being asked what he meant by technical difficulties, he replied:—"I mean, that we could not put a naval officer under command of Capt. Penny."—"It was not in reference to the steam?" "Oh, no." Sir John Ross also adduces testimony in favour of Capt. Penny's assertion that he solicited a steamer:—but our readers will probably agree with us, that with the evidence which we have already got, we may dispense with this particular officer's confirmation. In the face of Capt. Penny's statement, however, and of all the corroborating evidence, Capt. Austin—unbacked by a single witness—unhesitatingly says:—"Capt. Penny never asked for a steamer; nor did he ever give me the slightest reason to hope that either trace or rescue was to be obtained by sending a steamer up Wellington Channel!" Surely this is very sad. On one side or on the other there is what we suppose it will be courteous to call a mistake—fair, however, to call a very wonderful one:—and the public verdict is, we presume, likely to follow the multitude of witnesses.

But, to show the spirit by which Capt. Austin was animated—and in which he thinks himself free to weigh the arrangements of the Admiralty, and to make personal compromises with the public service—he shall be allowed to pronounce his own condemnation.—"I put," he says, "some close questions to Capt. Penny,—but not by any means so close as I should have put to Capt. Ommanney *or any one of his rank*."(!) Now, here we have the key to the seeming mystery.—The royal navy captain scorned to take information or advice from the captain of a "mercantile" Expedition, though sailing like himself under Admiralty orders, and engaged, with him, at great national cost, on a common work of humanity. Sir John Franklin and his gallant companions might lie and rot in "thick-ribbed ice"—and the yearnings of a generous country after its long lost sons be spurned and disregarded—rather than the former commander of a whaler should show the way to the rescue. Capt. Austin doubtless considers that his brother officers would prefer not being saved at all to being saved by means so undignified. Capt. Cook was a personage of some enterprise and celebrity:—but he had been once a seaman on board a Sunderland collier,—and no doubt Capt. Austin must have refused to "march through" any "Coventry" with Capt. Cook.

This bad spirit of martinetship—this affectation of the epaulet—breaks out in many pages of the evidence,—and we are sorry to say has broken out elsewhere. Capt. Penny, as we have said, modestly tells the Committee that his is not the pen of a ready writer. What shall be thought of the taste that prints one of his letters—evidently written at a time of excitement, and which he could never have contemplated would have been made public—in which the word duty is spelt dutys,—and the wrong spelling, instead of being corrected, is carefully pointed out by the denouncing comment (*sic*):—as much as to say,—"You see, Capt. Penny cannot spell,—he is not an officer of the navy. It would have been highly indecorous to let him bring home Sir John Franklin."—In the same spirit, we find a member of the Committee thus prefacing a question to Capt. Penny:—"We do not expect from you any scientific matter beyond what you have given us with respect to the latitudes; but I may ask you," &c. —Of course not. The science comes with the commission;—as "wisdom with the wig." Let us, nevertheless, tell this committee-man, that Capt. Penny, though unskilled in the art of drawing up official despatches, is a navigator of great experience, and would, if we are not misinformed, conduct a ship through the intricacies of Arctic navigation in a far more able manner than the R.N. admirals and captains (it is no disparagement to them to say so,) who sat in judgment on him.—These pettinesses would be scarcely worth dwelling on here, were it not that they explain better than more serious things the mere *esprit de corps* as a sacrifice to which a fine Expedition and a nation's hopes in it, have been jauntily thrown away.

Bearing, however, in mind the exalted opinion which Capt. Austin entertained of his own expedition as compared with the mercantile undertaking,—seeing how low the commander of the latter ranked in his estimation,—it is certainly not a little surprising that a letter from this humble individual should now be brought forward as an all-sufficient reason for the abandonment of the search up Wellington Channel. Capt. Austin's "dignity" is not consistent. Its service is intermittent:—and this is a trick that a spurious dignity often plays its possessor,—while true dignity is calm, grave and unimpeachable. We have seen that Capt. Austin and Capt. Penny had an interview, during which the latter made the former acquainted with all his proceedings. Subsequently to this interview, it was arranged that Capt. Austin and Capt. Ommanney should go and pay a "complimentary" visit to Capt. Penny. Capt. Austin shall himself describe what now occurred.—

"We proceeded on board the Lady Franklin and in the cabin were assembled Capt. Penny, Capt. Stewart, Capt. Ommanney and myself. I said to Capt. Penny:—'Now, Penny, let us set aside all feeling,—or words to that effect. *We are going home non-successful.* Depend upon it we shall be called upon closely,—or words to that effect. It is now necessary that we should take upon ourselves a certain amount of responsibility, and there must be a little official correspondence pass between you and me.' Capt. Austin then desired that Capt. Penny would give him an answer to his letter requiring him to state officially the result of his search for Sir John Franklin; and added—'Penny, I will tell you what: if you will tell me, and give me from under your hand that you are satisfied with the work you have performed, I will not go up the Wellington Channel.—It will not be satisfactory before the public that we are altercating.'—How I was able to maintain myself as an officer and a gentleman I cannot tell. I then said to Capt. Penny —'Now reflect; as soon as you give me your answer you may rely upon it that I shall not look over your work,— and you will then know what are my plans for the future.' I then bade him good-bye."

Capt. Austin now returned to his ship, and waited up until midnight for Capt. Penny's answer. Being, as he states, much fagged, he then went to bed, but not before writing to Capt. Penny *again urging him* for an official answer.—It was under these harassing circumstances that the blunt seaman, in *the middle of the night*, wrote his answer, —being, as he states, greatly irritated, and little imagining the use that would be made of his letter. We repeat it here.—

"Your question is easily answered. My opinion is, Wellington Channel requires no further search; all has been done in the power of man to accomplish, and no trace has been found. What else can be done?"

A few hours after Capt. Austin received this, he apprised Capt. Penny that he did not intend to search in the direction of Wellington Strait:—and the Committee, as we have seen, conceive that Capt. Austin acted wisely in coming to this conclusion, for that he could "*only* form his judgment on Mr. Penny's written communication."—It is quite manifest that he had previously made up his mind to return home,—as his words "We are going home non-successful" attest.

This brings us to the second clause of the Report, in which Capt. Austin is exculpated for believing that by Wellington Channel Capt. Penny meant to embrace all the water to the north-west. In support of this view, the Committee publish the rough track chart furnished to Capt. Austin by Capt. Penny, in which they say no distinction is drawn between Victoria and Wellington Channels. —Now, the track chart is absolutely barren of names,—it being intended merely to show the routes taken by Capt. Penny's exploring parties; and Capt. Austin knew well that only a portion of the open water forming a continuation of Wel-

lington Channel had been examined. This is clearly shown by the chart itself:—for a distinction is made. The northern portion of Victoria Channel is untracked and unclosed,—demonstrating that it was unexplored. How, then, is it possible that Capt. Austin should suppose that the whole of this channel was searched!—and how could the Committee in a spirit of judicial fairness declare that Capt. Austin was fully justified in taking such a view of the case?

The Committee proceed to praise Capt. Austin for transferring his search to Jones's Sound,—as the ice in Wellington Channel had presented the same impenetrable barrier which it had in 1850.—One would suppose from this, that no doubt existed on the subject:—but on turning to the evidence, hear what the Ice Master of Capt. Austin's ship says.—"There was a channel of water five miles in width along the eastern shore of Wellington Strait, extending from Beechey Island ten or twelve miles to the northward towards Cape Bowden."—"Did you report that to Capt. Austin?"—"Yes."—"In your opinion could you have waited in safety to examine this open water?"—"Yes."—Mr. Abernethy, an ice-master of great experience on board Sir John Ross's ship, declares:—"If even Wellington Strait was clear of ice it was clear last season; for I saw the ice coming down like stones down a hill, and there was water at the back of it. That was on the 12th of August 1851. We were crossing the mouth of Wellington Strait at the time, within sight of land. *It was quite clear;* we could see from Cape Hotham to Beechey Island."—Mr. Goodsir affirms that when the Expedition left the entrance of Wellington Strait "the ice was decaying; and there was a fair probability of its clearing out of Wellington Strait."—This evidence will suffice to contradict the Committee's assertion respecting the state of the ice in Wellington Channel last summer. Equally equally erroneous impression as to its impenetrability in 1850. In the month of September of that year the American ships were carried through the Strait and up the Channel as far as 75° 25' north latitude:—a fact that the Committee could have been ignorant of, and should not have forgotten.

Entirely and unjustly overlooking that the field of Wellington Channel was especially confided to Capt. Austin, the Committee proceed to say that considerable benefit might have arisen if one of the Expeditions had remained near the entrance of that Channel about a fortnight longer,—and they think this duty might have been accomplished by Capt. Penny. So that, they are not unmindful of the importance of that opening; but, with singular perverseness, they endeavour to cast the whole blame of its non-examination on Capt. Penny,—who was not charged with the task, but desired silently to perform it. Really, this Committee, left wholly to themselves, manage to arrive at a point of confusion and contradiction which a cross-examining counsel could scarcely have hoped to involve them in. While they justify Capt. Austin's return to England without examining Wellington Channel,—they recommend that the ships which he commanded shall be sent out again to do just what he omitted to do. And this recommendation, be it remembered, is based on the explorations of the "mercantile" Expedition, but for which we should at this moment be ignorant of the magnificent channel leading north-west:—by far the most notable fact in Arctic exploration discovered since the voyage of Capt. Parry.—It is quite evident that Capt. Austin would have acted better in accordance with his instructions if he had remained to execute the work which is now to be done by other parties. Bearing in mind the admirable condition of his men and ships—his chief officer declares that the steamers could have remained out another season effectively—it is indeed to be deplored that he returned to England,—and yet to be answered why.

Our readers may now judge for themselves how far the Report of this Arctic Committee is borne out by the evidence on which it professes to be founded.—It will complete our history of the case if we say, that the Lords of the Admiralty have adopted the Report, and addressed a letter to Capt. Austin expressing their approval of his conduct,—while Capt. Penny, whose views they are about to carry out, is passed over without being even honourably mentioned:—and that, while Lieut. Cator, who commanded the steam tender attached to Capt. Ommanney's ship, has been promoted,—Lieut. Osborn, who commanded Capt. Austin's steam tender, and who had the honourable boldness to express sentiments in favour of Capt. Penny's views, has been passed over!—Can there be any connexion between the latter two facts?

It is, of course, premature to speculate as to who will be appointed to command the Expedition next year. We may, however, congratulate all who take an interest in the fate of our unfortunate countrymen on the certainty that the command will not be entrusted to Capt. Austin or to Capt. Ommanney. These officers now, in opposition to authorities of greater experience—including Sir John Richardson—declare their conviction that Sir John Franklin and his party have perished. That conviction excludes the chance of these gentlemen being selected to carry the English flag into a polar basin:—and we trust that the choice will fall on one—whether Admiralty-man or whaling-man we care not—who will go out animated by the same conscientiousness and influenced by the eminent voyagers whose names have shed a glory on the history of English Arctic Expeditions.

A GOSSIP ABOUT GOLD.

WITHOUT attempting to write a treatise or an essay on the difficult and intricate questions which are connected with the present phenomena of the gold discoveries,—it will be agreeable to our readers to have placed before them a few facts and reflections which, until we arrive at more accurate results, should not be overlooked.

In the first place, there seems to be a pretty general admission that the supply of gold in the year just about to conclude will be quite twenty millions sterling. This very considerable sum is made up of fifteen millions from California, five from Russia, and one from Australia. The Californian supply last year is reckoned at ten millions sterling:—so that already there is an increase from that quarter alone of fifty per cent. What may be the results of 1852 it is quite impossible to say. At present it would certainly appear that it is by no means improbable that in 1852 the production of gold may reach some extravagant and almost fabulous amount; for, according to the late advices—and they seem to be authentic—the extent of the production seems to be a question rather of labour than of abundance. In other words, the supply of gold for present practical purposes is described as unlimited; and whether five or fifty millions is to be placed up in the course of a twelvemonth must wholly on the number of heads, hands and machines devoted to the business of gold-finding.

In Australia the arrangements made by the Colonial Government for preserving something like law and decency in the mining district appear to have been successful. On the 22nd of July last a regulation was set on foot by which a weekly mail accompanied by an armed escort was established between Sydney and Bathurst. The distance is performed in two days,—the consignments of gold sent by this mode of conveyance are deposited with the Colonial Treasurer,—and the charge made for the transit (the Government, however, taking care not to insure the senders against accident or loss) is one per cent. on the value of the consignment, reckoning washed gold at 64s. per oz. and amalgamated gold at 48s. per oz. These facts are at once curious and satisfactory. They indicate most satisfactorily the early development of that spirit of business, tact and strong affection for order which never fails to distinguish English enterprise all over the world. The number of persons actually engaged in gold-finding in Australia was not so great as might be expected—on the Buron the number was about 3,000 and at Ophir about 500. We must remember, however, that July was the Australian winter,—and the subsidence of floods, the departure of frost, and the return of a more genial season would attract multitudes to the gold fields.

So far, it is somewhat curious that the effects of the Australian intelligence have not produced any great increase in the tide of emigration from this country. Several of the recent passenger ships have sailed with their berths only half filled.

Every piece of intelligence that reaches us from the Australian Colonies expresses in some form or other the impatience of the colonists for the establishment by the Imperial Government of that line of steam communication which has been now talked of for four or five years. At Sydney, the people felt no doubt that as soon as intelligence of the gold-finding should reach London a line of packets would be established at once. It is painful to think of the indignation and disappointment which will be occasioned when the real facts are known in the Colony:—what it is ascertained that we have only just concluded a contract for an *alternate monthly* steamer to Sydney *viâ* the Cape, the vessels for which service have to be built—and that we have only just advertised for tenders for another *alternate monthly* packet to Sydney, as a branch service from the Indian mail line at Singapore. Several months at the least must elapse before either of these lines of steamers can be available; and no one, imagine, conceives that when in full operation they will constitute an Australian mail service as efficient, expeditious and regular as under present circumstances the colonies and the public have a right to expect,—and as, after more or less of embarrassing delay, they will certainly obtain.

Let us now turn to another part of the subject. It is quite certain that during the three years in which the California "diggings" have been in operation a quantity of gold equal to somewhere about thirty millions sterling has been added to the former amount of that metal in existence in the markets of the world; and it is also certain that no corresponding or equivalent increase has taken place in the supply of silver. The questions then arise,—where has this new thirty millions of gold gone to!—what effects has it produced? These are very natural questions, and very important ones. The shock of gold in the Bank of England is not higher than it has been at recent periods anterior to the Californian influx,—the price of silver, as measured in gold, is not sensibly higher than it was,—and the prices of commodities, far from being higher, are decidedly lower. What, then, is the explanation!—The explanation seems to be very simple: viz. There has been immense absorption of gold into the currencies of America and of France; and that in France at least there has been an enormous liberation of silver from the currency in consequence of the introduction of gold. In both America and France the standard is what is called "double:"—that is to say, both gold and silver coins are legal tender according to a certain scale of proportion established by law between the two metals. In America a gold eagle is declared to be equal to so many silver dollars—and in France a gold Napoleon to so many silver francs. The consequence is this:—all debtors pay their debts in the cheapest metal. If gold bears an agio, silver of course is used and gold coins are scarce. If the agio on gold disappears, and is transferred to silver, then gold coins are used and silver coins are melted into bullion. This is precisely what has taken place both in France and in America during the last two years to a very great extent. The increased supply of gold has first removed the agio from gold,—and then silver has been rapidly abandoned as currency, and gold introduced.—We are not able to state in figures the extent to which the substitution has been carried in America; but some returns have been published from the French mint which strikingly show the effect of the change in France. We learn from these returns, that while the coinage of gold in France was less than half a million sterling for some years previous to 1848, it rose in that year to one and a half million sterling,—in 1849 to two millions,—in 1850 to three and a half millions,—and in the first ten months of 1851 to no less than ten and a quarter millions. In America the facts we imagine would be still stronger. We are enabled, therefore, with this evidence before us to account pretty satisfactorily for the twenty millions of gold already yielded by Cali-

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fornia. Here, for the present, our gossip about gold must conclude.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE EXODUS.

I beg leave to express, briefly but sincerely, my grateful acknowledgement to "A. B. G." for his frank and liberal admission in favour of the views from which he formerly so essentially differed; and I rejoice in believing that since differences of opinion on the main points of physical geography are so satisfactorily adjusted, many persons, who would have set aside the subject as a doubtful speculation, may now be induced to follow us in the path we have each done our best to clear of obstacles.

The question now started by A. B. G. as to the probable state and depth of the former strait to the north of the Gulf of Suez, at the time of the Exodus, involves the expression of an opinion that I had fully anticipated might be entertained by many who would not have either the desire or the opportunity to mention their views and invite an investigation of the question. I thought it very desirable that such a question should not thus be left to the mercy of mere opinion and conjecture, while there were any facts accessible to observation—though as yet unobserved—which, if ascertained, could place the question beyond a doubt. As I learned from Mr. Stephenson that he proposed returning to Egypt in the autumn, I availed myself of the chance held out by this intention to recommend to his special attention a few additional circumstances, calculated both to furnish data for verifying the particular point upon which A. B. G.'s suggestions turn—and to give more precision to the details of a theory which Mr. Stephenson's valuable and well directed observations have already done so much to establish in its main features. As Mr. Stephenson was so obliging as to say that if the details which I required happened to fall within the line of his observations, or were procurable, he would bear them in mind, we can only await the issue, in hope that even if we should not succeed in obtaining all we want to clear up the point, some useful fact may nevertheless be elicited, of sufficient weight to incline the scale of opinion on the side of truth.

To ascertain by observations of physical phenomena the absolute depth of the strait in the time of Moses—the levels having been subsequently altered,—is, of course, impossible. But the points to which I have endeavoured to direct attention—and which I need not here particularize—must certainly enable us to judge whether the part of the former strait which is now the lowest—namely, that nearest the empty basin—has always been the lowest,—or whether its two extremities had once been level or nearly so, though the Suez end is now higher by six feet; and, moreover, how much of this small excess is due to mechanical accumulation, to be deducted in our estimate, should we discover that the amount of elevation has been greater southward than northward, as a variety of circumstances lead one to suppose.

The identity of the great empty basin with the often discussed bitter lakes of Strabo, is a collateral question of only secondary importance. It may be a matter of opinion; yet opinion, to stand, must be supported by fact. I leave it to those who prefer the opinion of their *identity* to explain how—under that hypothesis—it can possibly happen, that the volumes of fresh water which rolled over that basin, have neither left on the surface of its bottom a vestige of the organic remains peculiar to fresh water, nor washed away, disturbed, or covered up the lines of loose beach observed on its shores, all of which consist of *marine* species!—how, under that hypothesis, it happens that the inorganic residue of the basin can possibly be found, as it is, to consist of saturated brine, and of crystallized lumps of salt, which the Arabs have been gathering for use and trade during several centuries, without any apparent exhaustion of Nature's abundant store?

In the face of such significant facts as these, I cannot avoid ranking the identity of the great *single* basin with the fresh-water *lakes* of Strabo,* among the commonly accredited errors which more accurate recent observations have disproved; and I would not have thought the point, *per se*, worth contending for, but that we never can know how far an important truth may be obscured by the tacit admission of an apparently unimportant error connected with it—in any department of knowledge.

FANNY CORBAUX.

* "Τῶν πικρῶν καλουμένων λιμνῶν, αἱ πρότερον μὲν ἦσαν πικραί."—This surely never can have been meant to refer to a *single* basin or lake.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ANOTHER Revolution—and the aspects of Paris are changed and changing daily. Like the great *place* of Paris—*Place Impériale, Place de la Révolution, Place de la Concorde*—or whatever else may be its newest name,—the finest edifice in that capital has again changed hands, name and functions. Yesterday it was known for the second time as the Pantheon—to-day it is again St. Généviève. Commonly it is said in France that the Hôtel de Ville is Paris,—that the master of every revolution is he who can establish himself in its saloons. But if the Hôtel de Ville sways revolution, the fellow edifice in the Quartier Latin is its humble follower. The changing thought of each few years in France makes this structure its index. Every succession of dynasty, every grand vicissitude in Europe, has left its hand-writing on those walls. The story of the Pantheon is a history of the world during the last century. And what a harlequinade it seems! The structure was begun as an expiatory offering to the Church by a repentant mistress of Louis XV. In '89 the respectable revolutionists, Petion, Lameth & Co. transformed it into a French Pantheon,—and when Mirabeau died, his corpse was installed as the first of the new gods! Voltaire and Rousseau followed to the same vaults. A new revolution came—Robespierre rose to power,—and the ashes of Mirabeau were displaced for those of Marat. What a story is told in such a change! Another revolution—Robespierre falls,—Marat, just royally interred, is dug up and cast into a sink in the Rue Montmartre,—whereupon the bones of Mirabeau are carried back. This grotesque and horrible playing with dead men's bones was renewed at almost every turn of fortune until 1795,—when the National Convention stopped the outrage by a decree prohibiting the burial of any one in the Pantheon until ten years after death. Yet another revolution,—and an imperial mandate made it a mausoleum for Napoleon's marshals and senators. The Restoration saw it re-converted into a church. After the July days, it again became a Pantheon in name; but was considered chiefly as a monument to the friends of Louis Philippe,—the names of all those who fell in the contest which made him a king being engraved on its walls. The republicans of 1848 restored it to its old office of receptacle to the illustrious dead,—and began to decorate it with a series of statues and pictures taken from classic history and fable. But this change was scarcely commenced ere it became a sort of head-quarters to the socialist revolution, and Cavaignac had to clear it with grape-shot. One of his cannon balls struck the colossal figure of Liberty, and carried off the upper part of its head, leaving the mutilated figure on its high pedestal. This was a happy hit. Liberty without brains—how striking an image of the revolutionary Genius of France! Another—the last—or rather the latest—revolution in that strange capital,—and the Pantheon is a Pantheon no longer. Dragoons and Jesuits now occupy the edifice where rest the ashes of Voltaire and Rousseau, and which France has so often solemnly dedicated to her great men. What is the next name?—Probably we shall not know for a week or so.

The entire collection of maps exhibited in the Austrian department of the Crystal Palace have been presented to the Geographical Society of London:—another instance of the facility with which the most valuable part of the late unrivalled collection of products might have been kept together as a universal museum.

Some of our readers are perhaps aware that within the last ten years Mr. Stewart, Col. Rawlinson, and Mr. Layard have added to the antiquarian treasures of the British Museum certain curious bowls made of terra cotta, and found buried some twenty feet deep amidst the ruins of Babylon. These bowls are upwards of fifteen in number, and generally six inches broad and three or four in depth. Most of them have inscriptions inside, commencing at the bottom and extending in a spiral line towards the left till, after some revolutions ranging from five to ten in number, close at the brim. The characters and language of the inscriptions have hitherto baffled all our antiquarians. We are informed, however, that very recently both have been satisfactorily explained by Mr. Thomas Ellis, who is engaged in the Oriental Manuscript department of the British Museum. The language is Chaldee,—and the characters somewhat resemble the Phœnician or square Chaldean. At the same time, there are found certain words and terms peculiar to the Jews only; and thence Mr. Ellis infers that the inscriptions must either have been written by the Jews during their captivity in Babylon, or by a remnant of that people who never returned from Assyria.—We expect shortly to be favoured by Mr. Ellis with a translation of these interesting monuments of antiquity.

We are informed, that Major Cunningham has completed his work on 'The Bhilsa Topes, or Buddhist Monuments of Central India,'—and that the Governor General of India has sent the manuscript home to the Court of Directors, strongly recommending the Court to publish it at their own expense.—The work is illustrated by thirty-two plates.—We may mention, too, that Dr. William Freund, the philologist, whose works are well known to the readers of the *Athenæum*, is in London, engaged in constructing a German-English and English-German Dictionary on his new system. He hopes to complete the work in the course of next year.—Shakspeare has found a Swedish translator, in Dr. Hagberg, Professor at the Royal University of Upsal. The complete works of the poet have been published (for the first time in that tongue) by him, at Stockholm, in twelve octavo volumes.

If rumour is not wholly in the wrong, the editor of the 'Grenville Papers,' now on the eve of publication, is in favour of Lord Temple as a claimant for the authorship of the letters of Junius. The forthcoming number of the *Quarterly* is, we understand, to contain an article dedicated to 'Junius;'—but what new information our quarterly contemporary is to produce on the subject we have not heard.

Every boy in England is taught to believe that the Chinese consider him a little "barbarian." The belief may be said to grow with his growth and strengthen with his strength. They who go to Canton go out with that impression,—they who return bring it back. The term usually exasperates the man to whom it is addressed. More than once it has provoked active hostility. Lord Napier was extremely wroth with the mandarin who applied the term to him; and the writer of a celebrated letter to Lord Palmerston on the Chinese question named that as our first and greatest grievance against the government of the Celestial Empire.—Mr. P. P. Thoms, however, contends that the whole thing is a mistake,—that the Chinese describe us by no such word. He declares that the word *man*, which Gutzlaff and Morrison translate "barbarian," means simply "southern merchant." He seems to think that the Chinese rather mean to compliment us by the epithet—as he says they did a friend of his when they called him Hung Maou Kwei, literally "red-haired devil." The friend was choleric until Mr. Thoms applied the healing balm of his own ingenuity.—"*Red*," he observed to his irate countryman, "is beautiful to the Chinese; they extol the peach-flower, because of its form and delicate red-colour; all the fronts of their houses are red; they use the vermilion pencil. If red be thus beautiful how can their designating Europeans red-haired people imply insult? With regard to the word *Kwei*," he continued, "there is no occasion for us to take it in its most offensive signification, that of devil, it being a general term for spirits, whether good or evil, and equivalent to our word spirit."—Thus "red-haired devil" becomes "beautiful spirit."

Among the signs of our ever-increasing provision for cheap reading, we notice the recent opening of

several penny news-rooms. Our attention has been particularly drawn to two of these useful little institutions — one in High Holborn, another in Cheapside. Both are conveniently fitted-up with reading desks, chairs and sofas,—and the tables are covered with reviews, newspapers and magazines.

Mr. Ellis of Exeter writes to us in reference to the paragraph on Time Reform in our last week's Gossip, to point out an error of the pen in relation to the local time of Bristol, and to remind us of his own claim to the merit, be it much or little, of the more recent movement in favour of uniformity. "A child," we wrote, "born at five minutes to twelve on Monday night *national* time would be born on Tuesday morning by the *local* reckoning":—of course the two words here italicized should be transposed. The literal error does not affect the argument,—and was one that every reader would correct for himself.—We believe Mr. Ellis has done good and useful service in this matter,—and we are happy to receive the information which he has sent us. In advocating the Time Reform we are not forgetful of the argument used in many towns on the east and south coasts—such as Yarmouth, Ipswich, Portsmouth, Exeter, Plymouth, and Falmouth—for adhering to the old method of computation,—namely, that the tide tables by which all maritime matters in the several harbours are regulated are calculated according to local meridians. No doubt it would occasion some trouble to change the tables,—but we are strongly of opinion that the trouble would be slight compared with the hourly inconvenience of the old system.

The Chair of Poetry at Oxford is about to become vacant. The Venerable Archdeacon Garbett, the present Professor, retires next term; and we notice that already several candidates are in the field for the appointment; including—the Rev. Dr. Goulburn, head master of Rugby School,—the Rev. T. L. Claughton, M.A., of Trinity College,—and the Rev. J. E. Bode, M.A., rector of Westwell, and late student of Christ Church. At the last election, as our readers will recollect, the contest was made the occasion for a trial of strength between the two great religious parties in the university,—the High Church party supporting Mr. Williams, and the Evangelicals Mr. Garbett. What these doctrinal questions have to do with lectures on poetry, it would be difficult to explain to the uninitiated.

The daily papers announce the death, on the 6th inst., of Mr. John Buckler the antiquary, favourably known by his book on St. Alban's Abbey,—and to be remembered honourably hereafter by his many carefully and cleverly executed drawings of English antiquities scattered no one knows where, and of portions of our architecture destroyed by time, by ignorant owners, or by equally ignorant churchwardens. He retained much of his early skill with his pencil till the last,—and had entered his eighty-first year at the time of his death.

Letters from Dublin announce the sudden death of the Rev. Dr. Sadleir, Provost of Trinity College. The *Evening Herald* says:—"Dr. Sadleir was elected to the honourable office of Fellow of Trinity College in the year 1815. He used to relate a whimsical anecdote respecting this most important event in his career. He had competed for a fellowship previously—his answering, though unsuccessful, had been distinguished. Disappointed in immediate success, he had given up the idea of further pursuing the arduous career of academic competition. On the approach of the fellowship examinations of 1815, there being then two vacancies, Dr. Sadleir, who happened at the moment to want some ready money to stock a farm which he had taken, resolved to go in for the premium, calculating that, with little exertion, his former reading would place him, in order of answering, third upon the list of candidates. His calculation was exactly realized. But in the interval between the examination and the declaration an additional vacancy was added, we believe by death, to the list; and Dr. Sadleir not only succeeded to the fellowship thus unexpectedly vacated, but, in virtue of his seniority, was adjudged the first. In 1837 Dr. Sadleir was appointed Provost, which honourable post he continued to occupy up to the period of his decease. The Provost has died at the age of 75."

The Royal University of Berlin has been visited by death with more than common severity in the present year. The list of its illustrious dead since Christmas last includes the names of MM. Lachmann, Stuhr, Jacobi, and Erman:—and to these must now be added a fifth,—that of the late Dr. Charles Theodore Frane, who has died at Breslaw at the untimely age of forty-five. For eleven years Dr. Franz occupied the chair of Classical Philology in the University of Berlin. He is the author of a variety of works:—in the first rank of which stand his Criticisms on the Greek Tragic Poets and his several collections of Greek and Latin inscriptions before unpublished.

Intelligence has arrived *viâ* California that the Plover, which was ordered to repair to Behring's Strait and to act as a depôt ship to the Investigator and Enterprise, has returned to Port Clarence from her summer Expedition,—having been unable to penetrate farther north than 71°. Capt. M'Clure, of the Investigator, must, however, have advanced considerably higher, as he has not sent home any despatches.—We are glad to find that the Admiralty purpose sending a steamer of 250 horse-power to Wellington Channel, in addition to the squadron which was placed under the orders of Capt. Austin.

The Royal Society of Sciences of Göttingen on the occasion of its hundredth anniversary, a fortnight since, proceeded to celebrate the occasion by, amongst other things, the election of a number of foreign members. The only English name which we find on the list of these new Associates is that of our Astronomer Royal, Mr. Airy.

No apology is needed for recurring to the subject of street improvements in the metropolis. In point of fact, it is only by keeping up a perpetual discussion on the evils of obstructed throughfares and narrow lanes that the locomotive part of the population of London stand any chance of obtaining a remedy for evils which at present expand with their time and their patience. It is quite a settled point that a new and wide street is required somewhere from the western end of Cheapside towards either Holborn or the Strand. As regards the present route into Holborn, Newgate Street is ridiculously insufficient—a mere lane, in fact; and the hill in Holborn is the horror of every one. The route into the Strand is scarcely better: for the stoppages and concussions at the top and bottom of Ludgate Hill are quite appalling. The difficulty hitherto has been, to hit on some practical and effectual mode of opening out a new thoroughfare without too great a disturbance of the present property. Mr. Hesketh, of the Institute of British Architects, has just published a short tract, accompanied by plans, which until something better shall be brought forward seems to be at least entitled to consideration. Mr. Hesketh proposes to carry a new high-level street in a straight line, or nearly so, from St. Paul's Church Yard to the top of Holborn Hill:—the street to be as wide as Cheapside. Mr. Hesketh, thus, would open out a new diagonal communication between Holborn and, in effect, the western end of Cheapside. It is a great merit of this plan that it would make the sites of the old Fleet Prison and of the now deserted Farringdon Market available for the improvements. The new street would also be quite level, inasmuch as it is proposed to cross the Fleet valley on arches of the proper elevation. Mr. Hesketh says, that the property to be removed in a great measure belongs to the City, and is not of great value.—This is the outline of the scheme: and without professing to give any positive opinion either for or against it, there is sufficient plainness and practicability about it to render it, as we have said, deserving of attention.

NOW OPEN.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec. Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The Diorama of the CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN, the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, and TAJ MEHAL will shortly close (for the production of the New Gigantic Diorama, the Life of His Grace the Duke of Wellington). Afternoons at Three, Evenings at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—LECTURE by GEORGE BARKER, Esq., on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, commencing with his celebrated entertainment "AN ENGLISH CHRISTMAS," every Evening for a fortnight, except Saturday, at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq.—on WARD'S NEW SUBMARINE LAMP.—LECTURE by Dr. Bachhoffner on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION.—NUMEROUS PRIZE MODELS, WORKS of ART, &c. from the Great Exhibition will be explained by Mr. Crispe.—OPTICAL EFFECTS in DISSOLVING VIEWS, MICROSCOPE, CHROMATROPE, &c.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven to Five, and every evening, except Saturday, from Seven till half-past Ten.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

Institute of British Architects.—*Dec.* 15.—C. Fowler, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. J. W. Papworth concluded his paper 'On the Productions connected with Architecture in the Great Exhibition;—reviewing the various works exhibited in terra cotta and pottery, floor tiles, mosaic pavements, bricks, gold, silver, bronze, and other metal works, malachite, architectural models, paper-hangings, and productions in gutta percha, carton pierre, &c.—Professor Donaldson offered remarks, chiefly in confirmation of Mr. Papworth's observations.—The translation of a letter in ancient Greek was read from the Hellenic (Archæological) Society at Athens, referring to some inscriptions and sculptures recently discovered under the Acropolis.

Syro-Egyptian.—*Dec.* 9.—J. Lee, Esq. L.L.D. in the chair.—Dr. Camps read a communication 'On Prof. Ehrenberg's Microscopic Examination of the alluvial Deposit of the Nile;' by which it appeared that the great fertility of that deposit was not so much owing to any peculiar mineral constitution, or to the presence of any great abundance of vegetable matter, as it was to the vast accumulation of extremely minute forms of microscopic animals, which by their decomposition enriched and fertilized the soil.

Dr. Holt Yates read a paper 'On the City and Port of Seleucia Pieria in the Bay of Antioch.' After a brief description of the neighbourhood, in which he has been for some years a resident proprietor,—the Doctor gave a sketch of the foundation and history of this once prosperous and much frequented port of the Mediterranean. After which he described at length the existing ruins of an upper and lower city, the walls and gates, temples, amphitheatres, sepulchral grottoes, sarcophagi, and numerous other relics of antiquity,—but above all, the great tunnel or culvert cut through solid rock which has been the admiration of all travellers. Dr. Yates's great object was, however, to call attention to the port or basin, which is now in part filled up with mud and vegetation, but in others still contains water even to a considerable depth. This great basin is 2,000 feet long by 1,200 feet wide, occupying an area of 47 acres, and was, in fact, as large as the Export and Import Basins of the East and West India Docks together. It is surrounded by a wall of large blocks of stone; which is perfect on the west side, except at the point of drainage, for there is a running stream through the basin. The inner part is entirely excavated, and its canal is 1,000 feet long; the area of the outer port is about 18,000 feet square, and it affords good shelter, but is obstructed by sand. There are two moles 240 paces apart, constructed of enormous stones, and a pier, called that of St. Paul, which runs west 80 paces, and then turns north-west. Col. Chesney calculated, at the time of the Euphrates Expedition, that by availing oneself of the artificial arrangements adopted by the ancients for damming up the waters, by a wall and sluice-gate, the basin might be cleansed through the existing drain; and that being closed, the inner and outer harbours might also be cleansed through the existing entrance at an expense of some 10,000*l.*, but that the harbour might be set in tolerable order and made available to commerce for 30,000*l.* Capt. William Allen, R.N., formerly of the Niger

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Expedition, who has lately explored the ruins of Seleucia, and laid down the area of the port and basin accurately, had, without any knowledge of these calculations of Col. Chesney's, arrived at a similar result.—In pointing out the advantages to be derived from opening this port to commerce, Dr. Yates dwelt upon the absence of all good ports on the coast of Syria. That of Alexandretta is infamous as the most unhealthy on the whole coast,—hence, no one can reside there; whereas Seleucia and its beautiful neighbourhood is comparatively very healthy, and would soon become the most frequented spot in Syria. The navigation of the Gulf of Alexandretta is at times difficult and dangerous,—that of the Bay of Antioch is seldom so, and it is nearer. Alexandretta is under the Pasha of Adana, which is often a source of great annoyance to ship-masters trading with Aleppo. Seleucia is under the Pasha of Aleppo. Between Alexandretta and Aleppo there is the formidable Pass of Bailan, the Syrian gates of old;—between Seleucia and Antioch and Aleppo, comparatively open country. Cilicia is a country much disturbed by local dissensions; the valley of Seleucia is mainly inhabited by peaceful Christians and Ansayrii. There is plenty of fresh water. In fact, the same circumstances that existed when Seleucia became the port of Babylonia and Mesopotamia, and which induced Col. Chesney to make it the landing-place of the Euphrates Expedition, exist to the present day, and point out the great importance of opening the old harbour, as the very best (especially for steam) in North Syria, and the most advantageous point for opening commerce and intercommunication from this direction with the Euphrates and Tigris, with Mesopotamia, Kurdistan, Babylonia, Persia, India, and the far East.

MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—Annual Meeting.

THE IPSWICH MUSEUM.

THE Anniversary Meeting of the Ipswich Museum was held on Thursday last. On the previous Wednesday evening, Sir Charles Lyell delivered a lecture in the New Corn Exchange 'On the White Chalk.' After describing the fossils of the chalk of England and the mode of its formation, he proceeded to examine the question of progressive developement,—drawing attention to the fact that in the great chalk formation no remains of mammalia had been found, although they occurred in the oolites below. He contended that we could not infer from the absence of remains the absence of the higher forms of life. In reference to the general theory of progressive developement, he stated that every day was bringing to light new facts which showed that the higher organisms were found lower down than they had been supposed to exist. He drew attention to the teeth of a mammifer that had been found in the trias, or New Red Sandstone. He also exhibited a drawing and casts of an aquatic salamander,—and also the foot-prints of a tortoise that had been found in the Old Red Sandstone of Elgin in Scotland. After alluding to the footsteps of the tortoise found by Mr. Logan in the lower silurian rocks of America, he proposed to account for the varied forms of animal and vegetable life on the theory that they were adapted to the former changes in the geography and climate of the globe.—At the anniversary meeting, which was held in the Museum, the Bishop of Norwich took the chair. Mr. George Ransome, as secretary, read the annual report; which was highly favourable,—showing that the collection of objects had greatly increased, that lectures had been delivered, that the debt on the Institution was diminished, and that upwards of 60,000 persons had visited the Museum during the past year. The meeting was then addressed by the President of the Museum, Prof. Henslow, Lord Arthur Hervey, Sir Henry Austin, Sir Charles Lyell, Mr. J. S. Bowerbank, the Rev. E. Sidney, and other gentlemen. The Bishop afterwards presided at the anniversary dinner,—where speeches were made by Mr. J. Scott Russell, Mr. J. Gould, the Mayor of Ipswich, and others. In the evening a *soirée* was held, when Sir Charles Lyell gave a further account of the recent discovery of reptiles in the Old Red Sandstone. Professor Henslow exhibited some Indian arrows presented by Sir Robert Schomburgk, and also gave an account of the action of the Wouzali poison. Dr. Lankester drew attention to a new specimen in the Museum of the great seal *Halichærus Gryphus*, which measured nine feet six inches in length, and had recently been taken on the Fern Islands. Mr. Bartlett gave a short account of the dodo and solitaire; and exhibited bones which led him to the conclusion, that besides the species of dodo whose form he had restored for the Great Exhibition, there formerly existed another and larger species to which the descriptions of travellers more directly applied than to the species of which remains still exist in England. Mr. Gould exhibited several series of drawings for the works on which he is now engaged, and described the habits of the more interesting forms. Several new members joined the Museum on this occasion;—and we have great pleasure in congratulating the people of Ipswich on the success of this very creditable Institution.

THE STEREOSCOPE.

THE phenomena of vision have engaged the attention of our most acute philosophers; and various have been the theories propounded to explain the result of single vision with a pair of eyes, which are of necessity under the influence of two impressions. The researches of Wheatstone have done more than those of any other man to place this phenomenon in a clear light. In his stereoscope we survey two images viewed at the angle of reflexion converted into a *solid* body,—that is, a body conveying to the mind an impression of *length*, *breadth*, and *thickness*. This instrument has recently been modified by Sir David Brewster; who, by cutting a lens into halves, and placing each half so as to represent an eye—the distance between them being 2½ inches—has very beautifully imitated the mechanical conditions of the eye. Such an instrument is used as a camera for photographic purposes; and daguerreotypes obtained in it, as we have seen them executed with great delicacy by Mr. Claudet, are examined under a similar instrument, the binocular stereoscope. The result is, a mimic reality of the most deceptive character.

We have looked at views of the Crystal Palace and its varied wonders in this little instrument—which does not very much differ in appearance from an opera-glass—extending the whole length—every object represented in three dimensions, groups of figures, statues, &c.—which have been copied by the daguerreotype, but copied at slightly different angles, to correspond with the difference between the two eyes,—and which, when looked at under ordinary conditions, present mere flat pictures, correct in perspective and light and shade. They become in the stereoscope beautifully raised, in the highest relief, standing out from the surface as *perfect solids* to the deceived sense. Mr. Claudet is actively engaged in applying this instrument to portraiture; and it is curious to survey a group of portraits in the stereoscope,—each one standing apart from every other, and all exhibiting the rotundity of life.

Professor Wheatstone has just carried his inquiries a step further; and in the invention of the *pseudoscope* shown how the senses may convey false impressions to the mind.

THE COLLODION PROCESS IN PHOTOGRAPHY.

SINCE you published my short communication on the use of the bath in the collodion process in photography, I have received many inquiries on this and several other points in the manipulation, which I should like to answer through the medium of your valuable journal; and at the same time I wish to communicate a peculiar process of *whitening* and *blackening* the collodion pictures which may possibly prove interesting. I will first describe this whitening, and afterwards offer a few remarks on the manipulation generally.

The picture being thoroughly washed in plenty of water, after fixing with hyposulphate of soda, is treated in the following manner.—Prepare a saturated solution of bichloride of mercury in muriatic acid. Add one part of this solution to six of water; pour a small quantity of it over the picture at one corner, and allow it to run evenly over the glass. It will be found immediately to deepen the tone of the picture considerably, and the positive image will almost entirely disappear; but presently a peculiar whitening will come on, and in a short time a beautifully delicate white picture will be brought out. The negative character of the drawing will be almost entirely destroyed, the white positive image alone remaining. This picture, after being well washed and dried, can be varnished and preserved as a positive; but, nevertheless, even after this bleaching it can be changed into a deep-toned negative, many shades darker than it was originally, by immersing it, after a thorough washing, in a weak solution of hyposulphate of soda. In a short time the white picture will entirely disappear, and a black negative image will be the result. It is very singular that the picture can be alternately changed from white positive to black negative many times in succession, and very often with improvement to the picture. By the above process a most perfect white or a deep black negative picture can be obtained, quite distinct from each other. The first point which I wish to enjoin in the manipulation is, the great cleanliness absolutely necessary. If this be neglected, no good result can ever be obtained. In cleaning the glass to prepare it for the collodion film, a dry cloth, to give the last polish, will be found all that is required;—only taking care to avoid using a cloth the *least soiled with hyposulphate of soda*, for this forms with silver a peculiarly sweet gummy combination, very difficult to get rid of when once either on the cloth or on the glass. I must strongly recommend that the glass used for this film should be an inch longer than the drawing required, in order that it be used as a handle during the different operations. The furrowed appearance which the film of collodion will have when dried on the glass can be entirely avoided by moving the glass vertically backwards and forwards over the neck of the bottle, at the same time resting the corner of the glass on the bottle.

The nitrate of silver solution should be kept clear by filtration; and when this is attended to, there will be no necessity to protect the solution in the glass bath from the light. Neither is there any need to add iodide of silver to this solution, when used of the strength of 30 grs. Nit. Sil. to 1 oz. of water. The film after being poured on the glass should be allowed to dry for a few seconds in the air before being placed in the silver bath, and should be kept in it for at least a minute, otherwise the drawing will be streaky after the developement. The energy of the pyro-gallic solution can be increased by the addition of a small quantity of a saturated solution of protosulphate of iron, about 3 drops to 1 oz. of pyro-gallic solution.

A weak solution of iodide of potassium will be found to fix the picture and remove the iodide of silver from the film; also a saturated solution of chloride of sodium will fix the picture as far as the action of light is concerned.

I have been anxious to give this collodion process a name, but have not been able to find one that would at all indicate the peculiar changes which I have above described. Mr. Talbot in his new process uses the word Amphitype to indicate the nature of the pictures; but a word which can be translated "ambiguous" would not be appropriate for the collodion pictures,—for there is, in truth, no mistake about the distinctive character of the positive and negative drawings produced.—The third kind of image alluded to by Mr. Talbot as peculiar to his process can be obtained equally well on the collodion film by stopping the developement early. The collodion, to bear the changes which I have described above, must be very good; and this is particularly essential when operating in the open air, and when the pictures are relied upon, according to my published process. I may remark, that for sketching from nature, and at times when expedition is necessary, this process will be found invaluable. With the camera adapted for this purpose which I have in use, a party can make a day's excursion and be entirely independent of any aid; and it is possible with ease to bring home a dozen

or two of these pictures with only one or two pieces of glass,—thereby saving great weight and inconvenience.—I am, &c.,

FREDERICK SCOTT ARCHER.

FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP. — The Professorship of Anatomy in the Royal Academy has, we hear, just been resigned by Mr. Joseph Henry Green. To the task of a teacher of the physiology of the human form Mr. Green brought many qualifications. Professionally well informed in its structure,—he united to his technical knowledge an extensive acquaintance with its highest manifestations in Greek Sculpture of the greatest times, no less than in the works of the masters of painting of the mediæval school. Learned in the classical literature of the ancients as well as in the critical dissertations of the modern, relating especially to Fine Art, he was ever rich and felicitous in illustration. This he embroidered on views conceived in the transcendental spirit of the German school, of which his friend Coleridge and his own class were exponents. His style was elegant and flowing—his manner and delivery easy and unrestrained.—It is to be hoped that in the appointment of his successor a gentleman as well qualified by general attainments and professional knowledge, may be selected for the advantage of the students and of the profession of Art.

It may reasonably be anticipated that the third season of the "Architectural Exhibition" will prove more successful than the preceding ones. Transferred from Pall Mall to the Portland Gallery in Regent Street, it will have the advantage of a more spacious *locale*:—which increased accommodation has become requisite, since in addition to graphic designs the ensuing Exhibition is to comprise specimens of various manufactured articles and materials employed in architecture, as well as models and inventions. By this, its interest for the general public is likely to be considerably enhanced. The raising the price of admission to a shilling (catalogue included) is also, we think, a judicious measure,—though it was not carried, we understand, without very strong opposition.—It remains to be seen whether the affront put on Architecture by the Royal Academy last season, when it was immured in the little hole-and-corner named the Octagon Room, will have stirred up some of those who held back before to send designs to the Portland Gallery.—One circumstance likely to operate not a little unfavourably, is, that the Architectural Exhibition will not be in "the season." On the other hand, however, it will have the advantage of anticipating, and thereby avoiding collision with, more popular rivals. At the early January hour of the year it may prove very acceptable, if not as a banquet, as a *Break-fast*.

The best idea that can be given of the arduous labours of Mr. Layard, in obtaining for England the treasures which we possess in the shape of marbles from Nineveh, will be found conveyed by the pencil of Mr. Burford and his associates in the new Panorama opened this week at the Gallery in Leicester Square. Viewed as a work of Art, the Panorama of Nimroud is entitled to very high commendation. Some of the distant effects are especially charming. Viewed, on the other hand, as a grouping together of every locality and incident made memorable by discoveries or by the narrative powers of Mr. Layard and M. Botta—the picture will be found highly skilful and illustrative. Mr. Burford has been assisted by Mr. Layard; so that his new Panorama may be said to carry with it the recommendation of approval from one fully entitled to be heard on a subject which he has made pre-eminently his own.

Fathers and mothers who have sons in India—and all who are interested in the geographical features of our great Asiatic settlement—may spend an hour and a half very pleasantly in visiting the Diorama of Hindostan at the Baker Street Bazaar. The spectator is made to ascend the stream from the flat region of Calcutta to the glorious range of the Himalayas,—and everything of interest in the way is mapped and pictured with the fidelity of a geographer and the skill of an artist. We remember once to have heard an enthusiast soldier observe with respect to India, that two things alone had not disappointed him in our Eastern settlement,—the Taj at Agra and the Ganges in full flood. The Taj was to be seen during the present year at the Gallery of Illustration,—and what the Ganges is like may be seen now in Baker Street without the inconvenience of an Eastern sun.

We may mention for the information of the thousands who are admirers of Sir Joseph Paxton's structure in Hyde Park, that his designs for the Exhibition Building at New York have been exhibiting during a part of the week at the office of the Exhibition, 43, Clarges Street, Piccadilly.

The Stephenson Testimonial is about now to take form and substance. An amount of nearly 3,000*l*. has been raised—including subscriptions from about 5,000 workmen, in sums ranging from one penny to five shillings. It is said to have been decided that the statue shall be erected in the Courtyard at the Euston Station.—The Elliott monument makes little progress:—the appeal beyond the boundaries of Sheffield having met with scarcely any response, except in Manchester. The Sheffield papers state that the amount already collected and the subscriptions due do not exceed 250*l*.

How trite yet how true is the saying—a prophet hath no honour in his own country! If the foreigner is disappointed at seeing in the streets of London no monument to Shakspeare,—what Englishman is not astonished to find no statue or pedestal erected to the memory of Columbus in Genoa, the city of monuments and palaces? Every country with which the illustrious navigator became connected has raised some memorial—except that of his birth. Spain, Cuba, South America have long honoured themselves by their efforts to honour him. All the world has shown its pride in the hero except the city of which he is and ever must be the chiefest illustration. At length, however, it is aroused from its apathy. Inspired perhaps by the proposed colossal statue to be erected on the coast of Spain—that fine idea, of the further progress of which we should be glad to hear—the Council-General of Genoa has contributed 15,000 f. towards a fund for erecting a statue to Columbus in that city.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

LONDON THURSDAY CONCERTS, Exeter Hall.—In consequence of the Christmas and New Years' Days falling on Thursdays, the SECOND CONCERT will take place on THURSDAY, Jan. 8, 1852; upon which occasion the most eminent performers, Vocal and Instrumental, will appear, assisted by the GRAND MADRIGAL CHOIR, which elicited such enthusiastic applause at the First Concert. Admission 1s., 2s., and 4s.—Full particulars will be duly announced.

MISS DOLBY'S SOIRÉES. —There was much variety and novelty at the last of these. Among other attractions must be particularized the posthumous *Allegro brillante* of *Mendelssohn* [*ante*, p. 1153], spiritedly played by Mrs. John Macfarren and Mr. W. H. Holmes. The composition is one of great difficulty, from the extreme animation demanded of the performers.—Miss Cicely Nott, again, must be mentioned, as a new songstress of whom something may be expected under certain conditions. Her voice seems to be one of those light, wiry, ready *soprani* voices which are not common in England,—reminding us of the voice of Madame Ugalde,—and we should imagine of considerable executive facility. When Miss Nott shall have mastered her nervousness, she will find it well to direct her attention to quality of sound and accuracy of intonation,—both of which are apt to be *desiderata* in voices resembling hers in quality.—Two more of M. Gounod's Songs of France—'O, ma belle Rebelle,' and 'Le Lever'—very well sung by Miss Dolby, were most warmly received. "Slow to move" as are the English, according to the author of 'Tremaine,' and oftentimes too acquiescent in mediocrity,—that they are not deaf to first-rate merit is proved in M. Gounod's case by the attention which his songs are already exciting.—Miss Dolby sang Rossi's noble 'Ah, rendimi,' too, very finely.—She was farther assisted by the Misses Pyne, Mr. Whitworth, Messrs. Sloper, Blagrove, Lucas, Lazarus, and by Signor Biletta as accompanist.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The usual Christmas performances of the 'Messiah' by our three principal Choral Societies have begun.—On Tuesday a concert in aid of the Hungarian and Polish Fund was given by *Miss Kate Hickson*.—The last *Réunion des Arts* for the year was held on Wednesday evening.—On Thursday evening was to be given the first of three chamber concerts at the *Marylebone Institution*: the others are fixed for the 8th of January and the 12th of February.—The second *Thursday Concert* at Exeter Hall is postponed till the 8th of January. From this, it would seem, as if we had another "false start" to record:—one, however, conveying no reflection on the good taste of the London public. So far from it, these reiterated failures are only so many reiterated proofs that without some special purpose and attraction a congregation is not to be assembled and kept together.—The notions which we have so often expressed with regard to the appetite of our countrymen for English (not *quasi* German, *quasi* French, or *quasi* Italian) music—are receiving a new confirmation from the *Illustrated London News*. This journal is now publishing one hundred English melodies, of which the musical arrangement is under the superintendence of Sir H. R. Bishop,—the poetical editorship having been intrusted to Mr. C. Mackay.

It is said that an opera by Mr. Howard Glover is in rehearsal at the Haymarket Theatre.

In what may be called one of his recent *feuilletons* contributed to an American periodical, Mr. N. P. Willis announces the approaching arrival in the United States of Madame Sontag, M. Thalberg, and Herr Pischek in company. This, however, may possibly prove to be merely a mixing up of three distinct rumours.

The re-establishment of perfect order and prosperity in Paris (to accept the statements of French official journals) seems as yet only partially accompanied by the resumption of the musical undertakings which were palsied into a momentary pause by M. le Président's *Coup d'état*. The *Gazette Musicale* of this week is almost entirely barren of Parisian news, beyond the facts that Madame Tedesco is to try the part of *Fides*,—that a new opera by M. Bazin is in preparation at the *Opéra Comique*,—that Mdlle. Cruvelli is about to appear in 'La Figlia del Reggimento,'—and that Signor Ferlotti, a baritone, has been engaged by Mr. Lumley.—Having last week promulgated the not very favourable impression of M. Limnander's new opera, 'Le Château de la Barbe Bleue,' which we derived from the French journals, we ought to state that the testimony of M. Berlioz in the *Journal des Débats* is of an entirely opposite import. "The opera," writes he, "belongs to the small number of those works which obtain a real success and which deserve it. * * The music is the work of a skilful—a very skilful,—composer who finds the beauty which he seeks. * * The ideas of M. Limnander are various and lovely:—his melody is always sweet—his harmony is pure and distinguished—his orchestra is brilliant, sonorous, rich, without grotesque eccentricity, without ever falling into the error of dull noise, of effects of brute force, or of coarse *drummery*,"—(we must be forgiven for coining a word to render the original French one "*Tambourinisme*"). * * "To sum up," concludes M. Berlioz, "the score of the 'Château de la Barbe Bleue' is, to my judgment, one of the best which we have heard in Paris for a long time."—The same critic commends M. Dufrène, the new tenor, as being a real tenor, and, as such, a welcome rarity at the *Opéra Comique*.

A recent communication from Herr Rellstab to the *Gazette Musicale*, noticing a professional visit paid to Berlin by those eminent Quartett players the Herren Müller of Brunswick, mentions also, that other Müllers of a second generation are now earning distinction as performers of chamber music. Herr Rellstab further calls attention to the fact that new musical families are beginning to make themselves known:—announcing a concert about to be given at Berlin by the five brothers Tschirch of Silesia. There are seven of the brotherhood in all,—all of them composers, though only five appear in public. In these domestic conservatories

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artistic ideas and traditions stand a fair chance of being cherished. There we may look to find something of real enthusiasm for and interest in music in place of that slackness of enterprise and that small curiosity which, in our days of luxurious living and easy acquirement of a little knowledge, discouragingly distinguish the student that is from the student that was and the student that ought to be. It may not be altogether instinct and genius, but something, too, of household influence, which has given to the world such families of artists as the Kembles, the Garcias, the Callcotts.

A paragraph in the foreign journals, said to come from Austria, states that Madame von Weber, the widow of the composer, who has for some years been resident at Vienna, has applied to the Emperor of Austria to be permitted to dispose of the three original MS. scores of her husband's operas 'Der Freischütz,' 'Euryanthe,' and 'Oberon.' These, it is added, were in the Royal Library at Vienna: and she purposes offering them to the three sovereigns of Saxony, Prussia, and England,—in which respective countries the operas in question were severally first produced. The Emperor, continues the paragraph, has acceded to her wish, and caused the MSS. to be delivered up.—There is some mistake here. 'Euryanthe' was not produced at Berlin,—but at Vienna;—and the original pianoforte arrangement is dedicated to the Emperor Francis the First of Austria.

Among the arrangements made by Mr. Bunn, we understand that Miss Helen Faucit is engaged for a limited number of nights.

Miss Laura Keene has taken an engagement with Mr. C. Mathews.—Mrs. Chatterley, too, after an absence from the stage of many years, is about to re-appear at the *Lyceum Theatre*,—it is naturally presumed with a view of succeeding to the heritage of Mrs. Glover.

MISCELLANEA

Extraordinary Natural Phenomenon.—Intelligence has been received at Lloyd's, under date Malta, Monday, 8th inst., of a most awful occurrence at the Island of Sicily:—which had been swept by two enormous water-spouts, accompanied by a terrific hurricane. Those who witnessed the phenomenon described the water-spouts as two immense spherical bodies of water reaching from the clouds, their cones nearly touching the earth, and, as far as could be judged, at a quarter of a mile apart, travelling with immense velocity. They passed over the island near Marsala. In their progress houses were unroofed, trees uprooted, men and women, horses, cattle and sheep, were raised up, drawn into their vortex, and borne on to destruction. During their passage rain descended in cataracts, accompanied with hailstones of enormous size and masses of ice. Going over Castellamare, near Stabia, it destroyed half the town, and washed 200 of the inhabitants into the sea, who all perished. Upwards of 500 persons have been destroyed by this terrible visitation, and an immense amount of property,—the country being laid waste for miles. The shipping in the harbour suffered severely, many vessels being destroyed and their crews drowned. After the occurrence numbers of dead human bodies were picked up, all frightfully mutilated and swollen.

Professor Longfellow's 'Golden Legend.'—As some doubt seems to exist as to the origin of the story which forms the subject of Prof. Longfellow's new poem, I trust that I am not intrusive when I state that it is taken from an old Swabian legend, known as that of 'The Poor Henry' (der arme Heinrich).—Hartmann von der Aue, one of the glories of the Hohenstaufen period, adopted it as a subject for a poem, which is about as celebrated as the 'Parzival' of Wolfram of Eschenbach, or the 'Tristan' of Gottfrey of Strasburg, and which has been translated by Simrock, Büsching and Koch, on three several occasions. Hartmann's poem, I should observe, ends happily. Henry, in spite of his disease, is magnanimous enough not to let the girl sacrifice her life; and when he is restored by the bounty of Heaven, he rewards her devotion with his hand. I am, &c.

JOHN OXENFORD.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—Victor.—J. F.—A Lady—received.

P.Q.—Our Correspondent who addresses us on the subject of Thomas Wright, the "Manchester Howard," has surely not read our remarks last week with attention. Our views are precisely those which he writes to urge. Of social services rendered to Manchester we commend the recognition to the men of that great and wealthy city.

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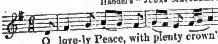

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Actuary—David Oughton, Esq.

Annual Premiums for the Assurance of £100, payable at death.

25	30	35	40	45
£1 16 9	£2 1 5	£2 7 1	£2 13 7	£3 [illegible]

The following are amongst the distinctive features of the Company:—

1. Entire freedom of the Assured from responsibility, and exemption from the mutual liabilities of partnership.

2. Payment of Claims guaranteed by a capital of 1,000,000*l.*

IN THE LIFE DEPARTMENT.—1. Assurances are effected on Participating and Non-Participating Tables, on Ascending and Descending Scales, for short periods, and by Policies payable at the ages of 55, 60, 65, or 70, or previously in the event of Death.

2. Premiums may be paid Annually, Half-yearly, or Quarterly, in a limited number of Payments, in One Sum, or on Increasing or Decreasing Scales.

3. Policies on the Participating Scale immediately interested in the Profits of the Company.

4. The Age of the Assured admitted, on satisfactory evidence being presented.

5. Policies assigned as Security not forfeited by Duelling, Suicide, or the Execution of Judicial Sentences.

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LOANS from 100*l.* to 1,000*l.* advanced on Personal Security, and the Deposit of a Life Policy to be effected by the Borrower.

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UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Established 1834. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 1, King William-street, London. For the Assurance of Lives at Home and Abroad, including Gentlemen engaged in the Military and Naval Services.

The principle adopted by the Universal Life Assurance Society of an annual valuation of assets and liabilities, and a division of three-fourths of the profits among the assured, is admitted to offer great advantages; especially to those parties who may wish to appropriate their proportion of profit to the reduction of future premiums.

The following table will show the result of the last division of profits, as declared on the 14th of May, 1851, to all persons who had on that day paid six annual premiums, being a reduction of 45 per cent. on the current annual premium. This will be found a most liberal reduction if the original premiums be compared with those of other offices adopting a similar plan of division of profits:

Age when Policy was issued.	Date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Reduced Annual Premium for the current Year.
20	On or before 14th May, 1845.	£1,000	£19 6 8	£10 12 0
30		1,000	24 8 4	13 8 [illegible]
40		1,000	31 10 0	17 4 6
50		1,000	42 15 0	23 10 3
60		1,000	66 13 0	36 13 1

Agents in India—Messrs. Braddon & Co. Calcutta; Messrs. Bainbridge & Co. Madras; Messrs. Leckie & Co. Bombay.

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SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Founded A.D. 1815.

This is the Oldest Life Assurance Office in Scotland.

THE WHOLE PROFITS BELONG TO THE ASSURED, AND ARE DIVISIBLE SEPTENNIALLY.

The extent of Additions already declared to this Society's Policies may be judged of from the fact that, in the case of many of the older Policies, there is payable, in the event of emergence in the present year,

A BONUS OF UPWARDS OF 100 PER CENT.
OR
MORE THAN DOUBLE THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF ASSURANCE.

CAPITAL OF THE SOCIETY,
(Arising solely from the Accumulation of the Members' Premiums)—upwards of
TWO MILLIONS THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS.

During the last thirteen years, the amount of new business effected by this Society has, on an average, exceeded
HALF A MILLION STERLING PER ANNUM.

FOREIGN RESIDENCE AND TRAVEL.

Greatly increased facilities have recently been given to Assured parties having occasion to go abroad; and in the case of many Foreign Countries (including considerable portions of North America and Australia, New Zealand, the Cape of Good Hope, &c.) the only extra charge now imposed by the Directors is for risk of Sea Voyage.

All information may be obtained at the Head Office, or at any of the Society's numerous Agencies in England, Ireland, and Scotland.

JOHN MACKENZIE, Manager.
WILLIAM LINDESAY, Secretary.

Edinburgh, 5, St. Andrew-square.

LONDON OFFICE.—4, Royal Exchange-Buildings.

HUGH M'KEAN, Agent.

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SUN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LONDON.

SHARE OF PROFIT INCREASED FROM ONE-HALF TO FOUR-FIFTHS.

Policies effected with this Society after Midsummer, 1850, and remaining in force at each Septennial period of division, will PARTICIPATE IN FOUR-FIFTHS of the Net Profits of the Society accruing after Midsummer, 1850, in proportion to their contributions to those profits, and according to the conditions contained in the Society's Prospectus and Act of Parliament.

The Premiums required by this Society for insuring young lives are much lower than in many other old-established offices, and Insurers are fully protected from all risk by an ample guarantee fund in addition to the accumulated funds derived from the investments of Premiums.

CHARLES HENRY LIDDERDALE, Actuary.

PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE, 50, REGENT-STREET; CITY BRANCH: 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.

Established 1806.

Policy Holders' Capital, £1,192,818.

Annual Income, £150,000. Bonuses Declared, £743,000.

Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £2,001,450.

President.

The Right Honourable EARL GREY.

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Henry Blencowe Churchill, Esq. *Deputy-Chairman.*

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J. A. Beaumont, Esq. *Managing Director.*

Physician—John Maclean, M.D. F.S.S., 29, Upper Montague-street, Montague square.

NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED.

Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of Bonuses.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.		Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.
1806	£2500	£79 10 10	Extinguished	£1222 2 0
1811	1000	33 19 2	ditto	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	ditto	114 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£982 12 1	£1882 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3392	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent street.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY; established by Act of Parliament in 1834,—8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

LONDON BOARD.

The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
* 1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	22 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	628 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

* EXAMPLE.—At the commencement of the year 1841, a person aged thirty took out a Policy for 1,000*l.*, the annual payment for which is 24*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*; in 1847 he had paid in premiums 168*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*; but the profits being 2¼ per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is 22*l.* 10*s.* per annum for each 1,000*l.*) he had 157*l.* 10*s.* added to the Policy, almost as much as the premiums paid.

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director, at the Office, 8, Waterloo-place, London.

CALEDONIAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Established in 1805; incorporated by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament.

19, George-street, Edinburgh; 37, Moorgate-street, London.

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John Chas. Conybeare, Esq.	John Dawson, Esq.
John Earley Cook, Esq.	George Scamell, Esq.

Five-sixths, or nearly 84 per cent., of the profits, are divided amongst the participating Policy holders.

The success which has attended the Life Department will be seen by the following Examples of the last bonus declared in 1850.

Age.	Sum Insured.	Duration of Policy.	Premium paid.	Bonus.
	£		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
30	800	6 years	74 15 6	37 10 0
..	1,000	7 years	174 0 0	97 10 0
..	1,200	8 years	[illegible] 0 0	120 0 0
..	2,000	9 years	449 [illegible] 0	[illegible] 0 0
..	2,500	10 years	[illegible] 18 4	[illegible] 0
..	3,000	11 years	580 0 0	413 [illegible] 0

To those who prefer securing an immediate Bonus at a cheap rate, the New Table of Rates for insurances on the non-participating scale will be found to offer great advantages.

Loans are granted on liberal terms in connexion with life insurance, on good personal or other security.

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and every information, may be obtained on application at the Office, 37, Moorgate-street, London. EDWARD F. SEALY, Manager.

GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, No. 11, Lombard-street, London.

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Lewis Loyd, Jun. Esq.	John Henry Smith, Esq.

Actuary—Griffith Davies, Esq. F.R.S.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.—Under the provisions of an Act of Parliament, this Company now offers to future Insurers *Four-fifths of the Profits, with Quinquennial Division, or a Low Rate of Premiums,* without participation of Profits.

The next division of Profits will be declared in June, 1855, when all Participating Policies which shall have subsisted at least one year at Christmas, 1854, will be allowed to share in the Profits.

At the several past Divisions of Profits made by this Company, the Reversionary Bonuses added to the Policies from *One-Half* the Profits amounted, on an average of the different ages, to about One per cent. per Annum on the sums insured, and the total Bonuses added at the four septennial Divisions exceeded 770,000*l.*

FOREIGN RISKS. The Extra Premiums required for the East and West Indies, the British Colonies, and the northern parts of the United States of America, have been materially reduced.

INVALID LIVES.—Persons who are not in such sound health as would enable them to insure their Lives at the Tabular Premiums, may have their Lives insured at Extra Premiums.

LOANS granted on life policies to the extent of their values, provided such policies shall have been effected a sufficient time to have attained in each case a value not under 50*l.*

ASSIGNMENTS OF POLICIES.—Written Notices of, received and registered.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That Assurances which expire at Christmas must be renewed within fifteen days at this Office, or with Mr. SAMS, No. 1, St. James's street, corner of Pall Mall, or with the Company's Agents throughout the Kingdom, otherwise they become void. GEO. KEYS, Secretary.

TOAST for CHRISTMAS.—"All Friends round SAINT PAUL'S, not forgetting NUMBER ONE."

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*** The finest Eau de Cologne imported at 2*s.* per bottle, or 11*s.* per case of six bottles.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA, an excellent Remedy for Acidities, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion; as a Mild Aperient it is admirably adapted for Females and Children.—DINNEFORD & CO., Dispensing Chemists, 172, New Bond-street, (General Agents for the Improved Horse Hair Gloves and Belts.)

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1851.

REVIEWS

Lord George Bentinck: a Political Biography. By B. Disraeli, M.P. Colburn & Co.

During the latter days of the Melbourne ministry, about the hour of midnight, there might have been observed a member of Parliament taking his seat on the back benches of the Opposition. His white macintosh just bid his scarlet hunting coat,—which along with his splashed boots told of a sporting senator. Never until the year 1846 did this member take any active part in debate. If be had been told at that time that in less than six years his biography would fill nearly six hundred pages, written by the pen of a leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, we can fancy the twinkling humour of his eyes and the ringing laugh from his lips. Yet, so it is. While Windham, Tierney, Whitbread, Earl Grey, the Earl of Durham, and many other considerable persons have been left to the pen of the general historian, here we have the life of Lord George Bentinck. To the strong personal friendship of a literary friend his Lordship is indebted for the posthumous honour of biography.

Mr. Disraeli and dryness have never been so strongly associated as in this volume;—about one-fifth of which only is interesting to general readers. It is impossible for any amount of literary power to give life and spirit to past parliamentary debates, especially while the speakers still alive cannot be treated with historical freedom. Interest in narrative can arise only from dramatic contrast and a succession of incidents varying in character. These are wanting in parliamentary life. Artists avoid painting senates and judicial scenes because it is difficult to group the figures. The same thing occurs in the historian's attempt to give heroic interest to parliamentary history. Who could analyze speeches with vivacity, give a vivid epitome of Sheridan, or concentrate the flashes of Canning in a page? One or two debates by treating them in a pictorial style might be made graphic,—but the Froissart or Thierry of a session would be found tiresome. Political life, except in seasons of national revolution, takes forms neither dramatic nor picturesque. The autobiography or correspondence of eminent statesmen may become interesting and valuable from their revelations,—but as a general rule mere political biographies are tiresome.

Mr. Disraeli knows all this as well as we do; and he has struggled hard to impart graphic interest to his "political biography,"—but has failed from the intractability of his subject. The Sugar Committee—the Irish Railway scheme—the Protectionist struggle—though important at the time, are wearisome to write about. In composing his work he has sacrificed much to the dignity of his hero. Wishing to impart to Lord George Bentinck the conventional respectability of a parliamentary leader, he has "suppressed the humanities" of his subject, after the fashion followed by biographers of Divines. Thus, he gives only a glance at Lord George's connexion with the turf. By so doing he loses the opportunity of recording some of the most characteristic passages in his hero's life.

Lord George Bentinck was a man of no common spirit when his passions and principles were in harmony. In general views of politics he was decidedly moderate and opposed to ultra principles:—in fact, he was a Whig of 1668. He was favourable to the Endowment of the Roman Catholic Clergy in Ireland, and to Jewish Emancipation. He seems to have inherited his views rather than to have adopted them. He had untiring energy, a zeal that shrank from no amount of drudgery,—and that he killed himself by his toils is made evident in this volume. It is impossible to read without some admiration of his self-devotion to the cause which he embraced. No one took a more modest view of his powers than himself. Leadership was thrust upon him, and what he deemed public duty alone impelled him to accept the perilous position. His chief disadvantages arose from his want of voice, and from his tendency to sleep after he had taken food. During his mortal struggle against Free Trade, he breakfasted at Harcourt House early in the morning,—received deputations and visitors till twelve,—sat in Committees until the Speaker took the chair,—and did not dine until long past midnight. Work of this kind would have killed Hercules.—It seems clear to us, however, though Mr. Disraeli is sparing of details, that the life of long excitement previously led by Lord George must have strained his powers and induced a tendency to apoplexy or to heart-disease. He knew that his political exertions were sealing his fate. More than once be was heard to say—"In this cause I have shaken my constitution and shortened my days, and I will succeed or die." He never could conquer his want of facility as a speaker; but he lived to hear Sir Robert Peel eulogize "the assiduity, the zeal, and the knowledge" displayed by him in the Sugar Committee.

Mr. Disraeli thus describes his hero.—

"Although he took no part in debate, and attended the house rather as a club than a senate, he possessed a great and peculiar influence in it. He was viewed with interest and often with extraordinary regard by every sporting man in the House. With almost all of these he was acquainted; some of them, on either side, were his intimate companions and confederates. His eager and energetic disposition; his quick perception, clear judgment, and prompt decision; the tenacity with which he clung to his opinions; his frankness and love of truth; his daring and speculative spirit; his lofty bearing, blended as it was with a simplicity of manner very remarkable; the ardour of his friendships, even the fierceness of his hates and prejudices; all combined to form one of those strong characters who whatever may be their pursuit must always direct and lead. Nature had clothed this vehement spirit with a material form which was in perfect harmony with its noble and commanding character. He was tall, and remarkable for his presence; his countenance almost a model of manly beauty; his face oval, the complexion clear and mantling; the forehead lofty and white; the nose aquiline and delicately moulded; the upper lip short. But it was in the dark-brown eye that flashed with piercing scrutiny that all the character of the man came forth: a brilliant glance, not soft, but ardent, acute, imperious, incapable of deception or of being deceived."

The biographer gives a long description of Lord George's labours after he had cast himself into Parliamentary life,—and adduces the testimony of adversaries as to the extent of his toils. Ever and anon Lord George, fighting a desperate battle against great odds, would cast a look back upon the turf. Let us quote a graphic passage.—

"A few days before, it was the day after the Derby, May 25th, the writer met Lord George Bentinck in the House of Commons. He was standing before the book-shelves, with a volume in his hand, and his countenance was greatly disturbed. His resolutions in favour of the Colonial interest after all his labours had been negatived by the Committee on the 22nd, and on the 24th his horse Surplice, whom he had parted with amongst the rest of his stud solely that he might pursue without distraction his labours on behalf of the great interests of the country, had won that paramount and Olympian stake to gain which had been the great object of his life. He had nothing to console him, and nothing to sustain him except his pride. Even that deserted him before a heart which he knew at least could yield him sympathy. He gave a sort of superb groan: 'All my life I have been trying for this, and for what have I sacrificed it!' he murmured.—It was in vain to offer solace.—'You do not know what the Derby is,' he moaned out.—'Yes, I do; it is the blue ribbon of the turf.'—'It is the blue ribbon of the turf,' he slowly repeated to himself, and sitting down to a table, he buried himself in a folio of statistics. But on Monday, the 29th, when the resolution in favour of a 10s. differential duty for the Colonies had at the last moment been carried, and carried by his casting vote, 'the blue ribbons of the turf' were all forgotten. Not for all the honours and successes of all the meetings, spring or autumn, Newmarket, Epsom, Goodwood, Doncaster, would he have exchanged that hour of rapture. His eye sparkled with fire, his nostril dilated with triumph, his brow was elate like a conqueror, his sanguine spirit saw a future of continued and illimitable success. 'We have saved the Colonies,' he said, 'saved the Colonies. I knew it must be so. It is the knell of Free Trade.'"

That Lord George by his constancy and determination was well qualified for party politics there can be no doubt. But we avoid all political dissertations,—and turn to a view on the history of Corn Law Repeal put forth by Mr. Disraeli. Before noticing it, we must remark that Mr. Disraeli is courteous and complimentary to nearly all his antagonists. There is one exception to this amenity:—he tries as much as he can to damage the memory of Sir Robert Peel. He endeavours to enlist both Whig and Protectionist prejudices against the great statesman, whom he charges with having "unfairly" opposed Lord Melbourne's Ministry.—It is thus that he skilfully introduces the present Premier,—whom he calls "the somewhat rash, but still unrivalled leader of the Whigs."

"The position of Lord John Russell during the last administration of Sir Robert Peel was a mortifying one. Every public man is prepared to endure defeat with the same equanimity with which he should bear more auspicious fortunes; but no one likes to be vanquished unfairly. It was the opinion of Lord John Russell that he had not been fairly treated by the triumphant opposition which had ousted him from the treasury bench. He was indeed too reserved and too justly proud a man to give any vent to these feelings in the heyday of conservative exultation. But the feelings were not less lively; he brooded over them with the pain which accompanies the sense of injustice. Session after session, while his policy was appropriated in detail by those who had often condemned or misrepresented it, the frigid manner often veiled an indignant spirit and the cynic smile was sometimes the signal of a contempt which he was too haughty to express. But when the hour of judgment had arrived, and when he might speak of his feelings with becoming dignity, in giving the reason why at the beginning of 1846, when summoned by his sovereign, he had at first respectfully declined the commission of her majesty to form a government on account of his weakness in the house of commons, he added: I need not now explain why it was, that, in the house of commons those who in general agree with me in opinion, are inferior in number to those who generally follow the right honourable baronet (Sir Robert Peel); but I must say, on this occasion, that during the whole of our administration, our motives never received a fair construction, nor did our measures ever receive an impartial consideration from those who were our political opponents.' This is a grave charge, applying as it does to a very eventful period of nearly seven years, for such was the considerable duration of the Melbourne government. Was the charge well-founded? In reluctantly admitting its authenticity, there are however in justice to the conservative ministry, and equally in justice to the conservative party, several important considerations to be indicated."

After assigning the course of Whig politics ending in the Lichfield House compact as the cause of the bitter opposition to the Whigs, Mr. Disraeli has the following characteristic passage.—

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"The whigs could hardly have treated Mr. Burke worse, and probably, in some degree, from the same cause. Lord John Russell was a man of letters, and it is a common opinion that a man cannot at the same time be successful both in meditation and in action. But in life it is wisest to judge men individually, and not decide upon them by general rules. The common opinion in this instance may be very often correct; but where it fails to apply its influence may involve us in fatal mistakes. A literary man who is a man of action is a two-edged weapon; nor should it be forgotten that Caius Julius and Frederick the Great were both eminently literary characters, and yet were perhaps the two most distinguished men of action of ancient and modern times."

—Literary politicians are sometimes found inconvenient allies, and "two-edged weapons" cutting in opposite directions. Mr. Disraeli forgets that in making the charge against Sir Robert Peel of "unfair" treatment of Lord John Russell, he assails by the same blow his own present ally, the Earl of Derby!

The writer then carries on his narrative to the end of 1845; and thus describes the circumstances under which Lord John Russell wrote the famous epistle that will be known in history as his "Edinburgh Letter."—

"In or out of power, therefore, the position of Lord John Russell since the reform act has been more splendid than satisfactory; and when the whig party, as was inevitable from their antecedents, but apparently to his mortification, in consequence of his guidance, was again overthrown, and had lost all credit and confidence with the country, it was to be expected that a man of his thoughtful ambition would seek when the occasion offered to rebuild his power and renew the lustre of his reputation with no superstitious deference to that party of which he was the victim as much as the idol, and with no very punctilious consideration for the feelings of that conservative government which had certainly extended to him an opposition neither distinguished by its generosity nor its candour. Such was the man; and such his fortunes, such perhaps his feelings; who was watching in a distant city in the autumn of '45 "four cabinet councils held in a week." To one so experienced in political life, and especially to one so intimately acquainted with the personal character of the chief actors, it was not difficult to form some conclusion as to the nature of these momentous deliberations. When the cabinet dispersed and parliament was again prorogued, it was evident, to use a subsequent expression of Lord John Russell, that the policy decided on was a policy of inaction. It is in the season of perplexity, of hesitation, of timidity, of doubt, that leading minds advance to decide and to direct. Now was the moment to strike. And without consulting his party, which for the first time he really led, and with no false delicacy for a conservative cabinet in convulsions, he expressed his opinions on public affairs in that celebrated Edinburgh epistle, which was addressed, on the 28th of November, to his constituents, the citizens of London."

At this point of the narrative we supposed that Mr. Disraeli was marking the famous letter for the purpose of damaging the fame of Sir R. Peel by showing that Lord John was his leader. But he had a deeper design,—the intention of giving an entirely new version of the history of the repeal of the Corn Laws. It is contended subsequently, at great length and with much ingenuity, by Mr. Disraeli, that the Whig leaders deeply regretted the Edinburgh letter because it prevented the settlement of the Corn Question upon a moderate fixed duty. He cites the printed speech of Lord Palmerston saying that a low fixed duty would have been a preferable settlement,—mentions the efforts of a deceased Whig peer, in 1846, to bring about a union between Lord G. Bentinck and Lord John Russell,—and argues that but for the Edinburgh letter the moderate duty would have been certainly passed, and Peel thrown out by the junction of the Whigs, the landed interest, and the Irish members. It is possible that there may be something of Sidonia's conjuring skill in all this;—but the narrative is so deliberately shaped to that conclusion, that we cannot refuse to believe that Mr. Disraeli really thinks that such might have been the case. It is the most important part of his work,—and will challenge political strictures from various sides. With these we will avoid meddling,—satisfied with indicating the curious view taken. To that view Mr. Disraeli's present position, and his knowledge of the past, give importance. It is also worthy of note, that Mr. Disraeli says, with great candour as some will think, or recklessness according to others,—"Well would it have been for the honour of both parties (Whig and Tory) if the impending and *inevitable* change had not then (1839) been postponed." The word "inevitable" is a strange one to have escaped from Mr. Disraeli's pen. We have marked it as not a little suggestive. The whole remark goes to impugn the political talents of the statesmen of that day; and Mr. Disraeli's entire statement might be printed with a sentence of Mr. Cobden's for its motto,—"It was a regular race between the rival statesmen to know who should settle the Corn Law Question."

As our readers are aware, the personal predominates in all Mr. Disraeli's views. In the history of the Corn Law Repeal he can never turn his eyes from the awful shade of Sir R. Peel, and it is evident from this book that as long as Mr. Disraeli lives there will never be wanting one to detract from that statesman's fame. He tasks to the utmost his powers of disparaging criticism in attempting to paint the character of Peel. He wastes twenty pages of his book in a complete literary failure. He dares not to use the tomahawk against the memory of the dead; but he avoids all the great points of the character, and gives a catalogue of qualities, not a picture. He tries to damn Sir Robert with faint praise,—and reminds us of the detracting spirit in which Lord Dudley wrote an essay in the *Quarterly Review* on Mr. Fox. He thus winds up his quasi-critical depreciation.—

"One cannot say of Sir Robert Peel, notwithstanding his unrivalled powers of despatching affairs, that he was the greatest minister that this country ever produced, because, twice placed at the helm, and on the second occasion with the court and the parliament equally devoted to him, he never could maintain himself in power. Nor, notwithstanding his consummate parliamentary tactics, can he be described as the greatest party leader that ever flourished among us, for he contrived to destroy the most compact, powerful, and devoted party that ever followed a British statesman. Certainly, notwithstanding his great sway in debate, we cannot recognize him as our greatest orator, for in many of the supreme requisites of oratory he was singularly deficient. But what he really was, and what posterity will acknowledge him to have been, is the greatest member of parliament that ever lived. Peace to his ashes! His name will be often appealed to in that scene which he loved so well and never without homage even by his opponents."

The best homage to Sir Robert Peel's recent grave on Mr. Disraeli's part would have been silence. Turn from his ungenerous and lengthened essay to a single sentence of Lord Derby's tribute in the House of Peers:—"He was, my Lords, a great man, lamented by universal Europe." The excuse for Mr. Disraeli's blindness to such merits lies in his professed idolatry of "party." The word is found in nearly every page of the book before us,—and the fiercely gladiatorial spirit described as existing amongst our statesmen is, we hope, an unconscious exaggeration of the literary artist. So that they thrust Sir Robert Peel from power, Lord George and Mr. Disraeli seemed to think that they would have done glorious things. "The large majority in the House of Lords had extinguished in many hearts the lingering hope that the ministerial measure might be defeated. Vengeance, therefore, had succeeded in most breasts to the more sanguine sentiment. The field was lost, but there should be retribution at any rate for the men who had betrayed it," &c. &c. Then he lingers fondly on the final scene in which the fall of the Minister was accomplished.—

"At length, about half-past one o'clock, the galleries were cleared, the division called, and the question put. In almost all previous divisions where the fate of a government had been depending the vote of every member with scarcely an exception had been anticipated: that was not the case in the present instance, and the direction which members took as they left their seats was anxiously watched. More than one hundred protectionist members followed the minister; more than eighty avoided the division, a few of these however had paired; nearly the same number followed Lord George Bentinck. But it was not merely their numbers that attracted the anxious observation of the treasury bench as the protectionists passed in defile before the minister to the hostile lobby. It was impossible that he could have marked them without emotion: the flower of that great party which had been so proud to follow one who had been so proud to lead them. They were men to gain whose hearts and the hearts of their fathers had been the aim and exultation of his life. They had extended to him an unlimited confidence and an admiration without stint. They had stood by him in the darkest hour, and had borne him from the depths of political despair to the proudest of living positions. Right or wrong, they were men of honour, breeding, and refinement, high and generous character, great weight and station in the country, which they had ever placed at his disposal. They had been not only his followers but his friends; had joined in the same pastimes, drank from the same cup, and in the pleasantness of private life had often forgotten together the cares and strife of politics. He must have felt something of this, while the Manners, the Somersets, the Bentincks, the Lowthers, and the Lennoxes, passed before him. And those country gentlemen, 'those gentlemen of England,' of whom, but five years ago, the very same building was ringing with his pride of being the leader—if his heart were hardened to Sir Charles Burrell, Sir William Jolliffe, Sir Charles Knightly, Sir John Trollope, Sir Edward Kerrison, Sir John Tyrrell, he surely must have had a pang, when his eye rested on Sir John Yarde Buller, his choice and pattern country gentleman, whom he had himself selected and invited but six years back to move a vote of want of confidence in the whig government, in order, against the feeling of the court, to instal Sir Robert Peel in their stead. They trooped on: all the men of metal and large-acred squires, whose spirit he had so often quickened and whose counsel he had so often solicited in his fine conservative speeches in Whitehall gardens: Mr. Bankes, with a parliamentary name of two centuries, and Mr. Christopher from that broad Lincolnshire which protection had created; and the Mileses and the Henleys were there; and the Duncombes, the Liddels, and the Yorkes; and Devon had sent there the stout heart of Mr. Bock—and Wiltshire, the pleasant presence of Walter Long. Mr. Newdegate was there, whom Sir Robert had himself recommended to the confidence of the electors of Warwickshire, as one of whom he had the highest hopes; and Mr. Alderman Thompson was there, who, also through Sir Robert's selection, had seconded the assault upon the whigs, led on by Sir John Buller. But the list is too long; or good names remain behind. * * The news that the government were not only beaten, but by a majority so large as seventy-three, began to circulate. An incredulous murmur passed it along the treasury bench. 'They say we are beaten by seventy-three!' whispered the most important member of the cabinet in a tone of surprise to Sir Robert Peel. Sir Robert did not reply or even turn his head. He looked very grave, and extended his chin as was his habit when he was annoyed and cared not to speak. He began to

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comprehend his position, and that the emperor was without his army."

On the subject of Sir Robert Peel's susceptibility on occasions like this, Mr. Disraeli tells the following anecdote, referring to another debate.—

"It was about this time, that a strange incident occurred at the adjournment of the house. The minister, plunged in profound and perhaps painful reverie, was unconscious of the termination of the proceedings of the night, and remained in his seat unmoved. At that period, although with his accustomed and admirable self-control he rarely evinced any irritability in the conduct of parliamentary business, it is understood, that under less public circumstances, he was anxious and much disquieted. His colleagues, lingering for a while, followed the other members and left the house, and those on whom, from the intimacy of their official relations with Sir Robert, the office of rousing him would have devolved, hesitated from some sympathy with his unusual susceptibility to perform that duty, though they remained watching their chief behind the speaker's chair. The benches had become empty, the lights were about to be extinguished; it is a duty of a clerk of the house to examine the chamber before the doors are closed, and to-night it was also the strange lot of this gentleman to disturb the reverie of a statesman."

We must try to find room for the most pathetic and best written passage in the whole volume:—the description of O'Connell's last appearance in the House of Commons.—

"He sate in an unusual place—in that generally occupied by the leader of the opposition, and spoke from the red box, convenient to him from the number of documents to which he had to refer. His appearance was of great debility and the tones of his voice were very still. His words indeed only reached those who were immediately around him, and the ministers sitting on the other side of the green table, and listening with that interest and respectful attention which became the occasion. It was a strange and touching spectacle to those who remembered the form of colossal energy and the clear and thrilling tones that had once startled, disturbed, and controlled, senates. Mr. O'Connell was on his legs for nearly two hours, assisted occasionally in the management of his documents by some devoted aide-de-camp. To the house generally it was a performance of dumb show, a feeble old man muttering before a table; but respect for the great parliamentary personage kept all so orderly as if the fortunes of a party hung upon his rhetoric; and though not an accent reached the gallery, means were taken that next morning the country should not lose the last and not the least interesting of the speeches of one who had so long occupied and agitated the mind of nations. This remarkable address was an abnegation of the whole policy of Mr. O'Connell's career. It proved by a mass of authentic evidence ranging over a long term of years, that Irish outrage was the consequence of physical misery, and that the social evils of that country could not be successfully encountered by political remedies. To complete the picture, it concluded with a panegyric of Ulster and a patriotic quotation from Lord Clare."

We take our leave of this book by warning our readers that they will find it drier reading than they might suppose from our extracts. The Lord George Bentinck of private life—of the Guards—the clubs—the turf—is entirely kept out of its pages,—over which the spirit of the Blue Books breathes heavily. It has few anecdotes,—no revelations,—no vivid descriptions;—and may be fairly described as a most ponderous Protectionist pamphlet, garnished with some mordant strictures on the statesmanship of Peel.

We must not omit to add, that a long chapter is dedicated to Mr. Disraeli's views of Jewish Emancipation. It is written in the Ben Sidonia style of the Jew in 'Coningsby.' "The Jews," he says, "are essentially Conservative; and therefore"—but we cannot give his political reasonings. We conclude with his confession on ethnology:—"The truth is, progress and reaction are but words to mystify the millions. They mean nothing:—they are phrases, not facts. *All is race.*" The flippancy of this is more amusing when one recollects Lord Stanley—the chief of Mr. Disraeli's party—having severely rebuked a parliamentary opponent for introducing "race" into political questions. But even in his gravest performances it is hard to know whether Mr. Disraeli is not laughing at his reader—and at himself.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

Floral Poems; with Pictures in the Flowers. The Poetry by F. W. N. Bayley, Esq.—*The Floral Months of England.* By Jane G. Giraud. Ackermann & Co.

THE latter of the above-named winter-garlands must be mentioned first, because it can be praised as charmingly adding to the stores of grace and remembrance which belong to this cheerful season. The drawing of the floral subjects, with little exception, displays a happy union of freedom and correctness:—while, in all cases where the tint of the flower is strong enough to conceal the coarseness of its crayon outlines, the illustrations may be cited as among the most successful additions recently made to our stores of coloured lithographs.—The letter-press is confined to simple lists of the wild flowers of the several seasons, handsomely printed on scrolls illuminoted in the formal fantastical fashion of the old Missal.

With regard to the 'Floral Poems,' we ought to speak less prosaically. What the guitar-playing sylphs and the ouphes and elves, that attitudinize among the Pinks, Roses, Heartsease, &c. &c. here assembled are doing, we are, nevertheless, unable to tell. Mr. F. W. N. Bayley must himself be their exponent to sentimental Christmas-keepers.—

"Nature herself," says he, "with her loveliest robe upon her—her robe of Flowers—comes first. She tells, by the voices of her blossoming interpreters, her pretty fictions—and sweet stories they are—bathed in Iris hues."

Then, he proceeds to point out what Art does,—lastly, the part taken by Poetry in the daisy enchantment.—For any further explanation the reader must go to the book itself. The matter is too delicate for the rude handling of critics. The volume will doubtless have its own class of admirers amid the varied seekers after excitement at this festival time.

Amongst Christmas Books we may very fairly mention—because it will form an admirable Christmas present for a younger class of readers, though it will survive the season—*Little Henry's Holiday at the Great Exhibition.* This little book, copiously illustrated, is in the form of a dialogue between a father and his children,—and attempts, very successfully, to interest the young in the Crystal Palace and its contents, by details conveying much useful information in forms suited to their capacities and tastes.

In this article we may mention too, as amongst the beautifully embellished volumes of the season—meant for the moment as gift-books, but which will be ornaments of the drawing-room table at all times—an edition of *The Poetical Works of Sir Walter Scott*, rich in engravings, published by the Messrs. Black, of Edinburgh—and a publication by Mr. Bogue of *Poems, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*, illustrated with upwards of one hundred wood engravings, from which as a whole we have not for some time seen anything more charming. Both volumes are richly and fancifully bound.

Synopsis of the Vegetable Products of Scotland. By Peter Lawson & Son. Edinburgh, Lawson.

FEW of those who visited the Great Exhibition will have forgotten the extensive series of fittings in the South Gallery devoted to a display of the vegetable products of Scotland. We called attention to it at the time, as interesting for its exhibition of what are the productive capabilities in relation to the vegetable kingdom of not only Scotland, but of the British Islands generally. We shall find few things grown in Scotland that may not be cultivated elsewhere in Britain,—and few things growing elsewhere in Britain that will not thrive equally well in Scotland. All who are interested in the productions of the soil will be glad to know that the slender account of this collection of Scotch products which the Catalogues of the Great Exhibition gave has been extended by the publication of a special Catalogue entering into details with regard to every article thus exhibited.

The arrangement of this Catalogue serves to show the nature and uses of the vegetable substances exhibited. Thus, the whole work—which is a goodly quarto—is divided into five parts, under the following heads:—Plants cultivated—1, for their seeds and straw—2, for their herbage and forage—3, chiefly for their roots—4, for their uses in the arts and manufactures—5, for timber, bark, fruit, and ornament.

The detailed descriptions of plants are preceded by an introduction embracing a history of the agriculture of Scotland,—more especially indicating the circumstances and the period of the introduction of any new plant. If we glance for a moment at the Catalogue, we discover how few of the plants which are now necessaries of life to us are indigenous to our own islands. As to how wheat, barley, oats, rye came to be cultivated in Great Britain at all, we lack positive information. Wheat, which we find nowhere truly wild, was probably brought here with the first settlers in these islands. The oat was found wild by Bruce in Abyssinia. The Romans first saw rye in Great Britain. We are indebted, however, to the Romans for many of our fruit trees,—and they first taught us to produce grain for profitable exportation. Subsequent additions were made to our vegetable productions by the Normans,—and also by the ecclesiastical institutions of the Middle Ages. The Crusaders introduced some new plants into Europe:—as, the French bean, buck wheat, the poppy,—also other plants of less value, and many weeds. Gradually, as commerce has extended, new plants have been introduced; and every year is increasing the number of useful vegetable productions cultivated in Great Britain.

In the history of the introduction of plants, few have been of more importance than the potato. It was known in two centuries as a rarity of the garden before it was cultivated as field produce. A curious prejudice retarded its use amongst the Scotch:—they found no mention of it in the Bible. They seemed to have forgotten that their favourite oat was in the same predicament. The orthodox might learn a lesson from this incident if they wished.

The information given under the head of each particular variety of plant mentioned is very full,—and will render this Catalogue valuable to the practical agriculturist. Thus, in the first division we find no less than 179 varieties of wheat described. The varieties of rye, barley, oats, millet, and maize are also included. We hoped to have found here some account of the limits in height and in latitude within which these grains will grow. It is well known that wheat which will ripen its fruit at a consider-

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able elevation above the sea in the southern parts of this country will do so only at the level of the sea at Aberdeen. It is especially important for the experimental agriculturist to be acquainted with the limits of altitude, longitude and temperature within which plants will severally yield the products that are of use to man. Such knowledge would prevent the constant repetition of useless experiments, by pointing out the true causes of failure,—and would at the same time suggest the introduction of plants hitherto unknown amongst us.

In the second division we find an account of the grasses grown in Scotland for herbage. These are pretty well known to English agriculturists; but many of the remarks on the properties and culture of the species will be found of value.—Under this head we have also a full account of the clovers, vetches, peas, and other leguminous plants consumed as forage by horses and cattle.—In this section will further be found notices of plants recently introduced or only rarely used:—forming a suitable reference for those who would wish to indulge in experimental farming.—Of plants reared for their roots, carrots, turnips and potatoes are the most conspicuous;—although the botanist tells us that the part of the potato eaten is the stem, and not the root. For practical purposes this is not a matter of importance.

In the fourth and fifth divisions we have descriptions of plants yielding fibres—as, hemp and flax,—those yielding dyes—as, madder and woad,—and the various kinds of forest and fruit trees. In each of these departments the practical economist will find subjects for thought. It appears, that many of our common weeds not now applied to any useful purpose contain colouring matters capable of producing various dyes. We were much struck with this fact at the Exhibition,—and should imagine that this department of inquiry would well repay the talent of some enterprising chemist. But it is just here that we have failed. The Exhibition has shown us that we have excellent chemists and excellent workmen,—but it has also shown that our artizans are not such good chemists as those of the Continent, and that our chemists do not understand so well as those of France and of Germany the processes going on in our manufactures. If the Crystal Palace had taught us only this, it would have been to us worth more than all that it cost. It has done—and is to do—many a good thing more:—and one of the proofs of its value in a relation in which at first it was not contemplated that it would prove to be of any use, is, the publication of this 'Synopsis of the Vegetable Products of Scotland.'

NEW NOVELS.

On closing for the year this article, it is scarcely possible to avoid pausing to amend its title,—which, indeed, might run "*New (by courtesy)*" so far as concerns nine-tenths of the delicate distresses belonging to ninety out of the hundred tales that form the heavy provision of light reading for any given quarter. Still, the stream of Fiction flows uninterruptedly forth;—and since, despite of anything that we might say, "so 'twill be when we are gone," our burden would grow none the lighter were we to lose heart or temper over the task of finding the "good in everything,"—even in the thousandth three-volume romance which lies on the table to be disposed of ere we can take our Christmas holidays!—

The Death Flag. By Miss Crumpe, Author of 'Geraldine of Desmond.' 3 vols. Shoberl.

Whatever be her other sins, Miss Crumpe is innocent of one fault of the day rebuked by Sir E. Lytton, in the preface to 'Lucretia,'—impatience. Twenty years, or thereabouts, have elapsed since her former romance—'Geraldine of Desmond'—was published;—as long a period since the minor literary circles of London were occupied with the news how the poet Campbell had allowed some of her verses to go abroad under the powerful protection of his name.—But patience in an author should mean also progress. If we state that 'The Death Flag' is in the style of "twenty years since,"—such is only the literal truth;—and our character of the book, instead of conveying reproach, is intended to invite those who still love the prolixity, solemn elaborateness, and somewhat stilted passion of a by-gone school. Such novel-readers yet exist,—and they will delight in the abduction of the two lovely heroines by the wicked Buccaneer O'Sullivan,—will consider the Skelig landscapes as painted with the sublime wildness of Rosa,—will accept the full-length picture of Prince Charles Edward, the Pretender, (whose latest attempts on the English crown form what may be called the main incidents of the book,) as historically beautiful and charmingly true,—and will be exhilarated by the out-spoken yet complicated coquetries of Widow Chatterlie at "the drum" from which the beauteous Miss O'Moore was cruelly carried away.—To readers whose tastes lie in the direction of incident rather than of probable truth, and who prefer a style where resonance predominates over Nature, 'The Death Flag' may be cordially commended. With those whose requisitions are more modern, the tale will hardly make its way.

Bothwell; or, the Days of Mary, Queen of Scots. By James Grant, Esq., Author of 'The Romance of War.' 3 vols. Parry & Co.

'Bothwell' is of the school of 'The Death Flag,'—but belongs to a lower form. Many years ago, the latter days of the buccaneer lover of Mary Stuart, on the verge of the wild North Sea, were made the subject of a dramatic poem by the "Corn-law Rhymer;"—but whereas, in his work the hand of the real dramatist was to be traced,—in the present one, we have the twang and the tawdriness of the booth. There is some foundation—as the publications of the Bannatyne Club had already apprised the antiquarian—for the existence of Bothwell's first wife, who is said to have been a Norwegian lady, Anne Throndson. The separation of the pair prior to Bothwell's visit to Scotland is told in the dialect not of Norway, but of No-man's Land.—

"'My dear Lord!' said she, in a faint voice, 'so thou art come to me again!'—'I have come, Anna, but to bid thee farewell.' Her large eyes dilated with sudden alarm and grief. 'I told thee, Anna, that in Orkney we might have to separate for a time, ere I could convey thee to my household and my home. The wind is blowing right across the stormy Frith toward the mainland of Scotland, and though love cries ho! my skipper is urgent, and still more so is stern necessity. Farewell for a time—for a brief time, sweet Anna, I must leave thee,' continued the Earl kissing her repeatedly to pacify her. Her beauty was very alluring, and until that moment he knew not how deep was his passion for her. 'In that busy world of turmoil and intrigue on which thou art about to re-enter—I will be forgotten. Thou mayest not return to me, and I—I will'——'What?'—'Die!'—'Speak not, think not thus, dearest Anna!' replied Bothwell, who felt his resolution wavering, though the thoughts of ambition and the taunts of Ormiston urged him on the path he had commenced. 'We must separate—but we must meet again.'"

Nor are Mary of Scotland, the gaieties of her court, the hideous tragedy of the Kirk of Field, and her ill-starred marriage with the head conspirator, more happily or naturally rendered. In the case of the Queen of Scots, maltreatment has been made all the more obvious by the existence of such a life-breathing and fascinating portrait as the one existing in Scott's 'Abbot'. To sum up,—'Bothwell' must be characterized as hardly rising to the old fashioned sky-blue scarlet standard of the Minerva Press.

Antony, the Deaf and Dumb Boy. 2 vols. Bentley.

If 'The Death Flag' be a little too mature in style,—if 'Bothwell' be somewhat too fine,—'Antony' is about as much too new and namby pamby. It is a sickly story; nor will any disguising of the truth mend the matter. So angelic is Antony, the deaf and dumb boy,—so superior to most of the hearing and speaking characters in genius, in cultivation, in judgment, and in every virtuous affection,—as to excite the suspicion that to be without his senses is a hero's best estate. Why not, if such were the author's view, have also made Antony blind? The unreality of these modern tales of trial deprives their lesson of all its application to the common pilgrim of life. Hope, patience and charity rising superior to bodily pain and physical incompleteness is a noble and not an apocryphal spectacle; but that disease and malformation do not commonly impress the character with particular scars and signs, with singularities of humour, and with delicacies of morbid colour unknown to more happily constituted persons, is untrue. The author seems aware of the fallacy in the argument and conduct of his own story,—since, by way of catastrophe, and it may be presumed as a faëry reward for the superhuman virtues of his hero under privation, Antony is made in the last pages of the last volume to recover his hearing.—The style of this tale is vaguely transcendental and sweetly sentimental:—in some respects, more American than English.

The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution. By Benson J. Lossing. Vol. I. New York, Harper.

This is the commencement of a topographical history of the American War of Independence; and Mr. Lossing is at once historian, antiquary, and artist,—for it is a main object of the book to present to the eye as well as to the mind accurate pictures of the leading scenes and incidents of the struggle which made America a free nation and reduced this country to the most humiliating condition to which hitherto it has ever descended. We have scarcely ever met with a publication more genuine and *bonâ fide* than the present. The sketches of landscapes and of natural and artificial objects with which the pages are thickly bestrewed have been honestly drawn on the spot,—the stories, anecdotes, and traditions which fill every chapter have been really obtained from the recital of local worthies. "To collect," says the author, "the pictorial and other materials for this work, I travelled more than 8,000 miles in the old thirteen States and Canada, and visited every important place made memorable by the events of the war." This is saying a great deal certainly; but not more than we have every reason to believe is true. Mr. Lossing is, of course, an enthusiast in the task which he has undertaken. He sees everything with the eye of a revolutionary partisan, and there is scarcely a line in the volume which is not influenced more or less by this strong partiality. Still, the work is not an unfair one,—for there is a great difference between strong opinions and a disposition to misrepresentation. Mr. Lossing does not do justice to the loyalist party, nor to the British officers and adherents who took an active part in the contest. But he is

quite willing to admit that they were enemies of no common kind—that generosity and daring were not confined to the American camp—and that at this time of day, when seventy years have cooled down the passions of that unhappy contest, we might well afford to be impartial in our retrospect of events which can never be repeated.

In America we can imagine that Mr. Lossing's book will meet with a wide popularity. Its merits are certainly of a high order, and will raise the European estimate of the taste and resources of the United States in the production of the highest order of illustrated works. A London publisher would have brought out the book in a style of greater perfection than it has been found possible to attain at New York. The binding would have been at once more brilliant and more chaste, and the pages would have been less crowded with type and woodcuts, and also more ornamental. But it cannot be denied that all the substantial qualities of elegance are to be found in this publication of the Messrs. Harper. The mechanical execution of the woodcuts is frequently better than the artistic merit of the sketches which they transmit; although it would be unfair not to point out that the exceptions to this remark are numerous and important. In every case, however, there is the strong charm of faithfulness and character. Whether the artist brings before us the crumbling monument which threatens soon to disappear through pillage and neglect from the spot where Wolfe expired on the Heights of Abraham, or that disconsolate looking valley at Saratoga which witnessed a capitulation of British soldiers still remembered with shame and indignation by the people of this country,—we are always sure that Mr. Lossing does his best to depict on paper localities which he has seen and attentively examined.—While we are speaking of Saratoga, let us not forget to say that Mr. Lossing confirms the statement which has been once or twice made before, to the effect that General Gates, with a delicacy of feeling of which, speaking generally, the American leaders possessed sadly too little, would not permit either his officers or his army to witness the surrender of Burgoyne and his companions in arms. "The British army," says Mr. Lossing, writing on the fatal Heights of Fish Creek, "left their camp upon the hills and marched sorrowfully down upon the 'green,' or level plain in front of old Fort Hardy, where the different companies were drawn up in parallel lines, and by order of their several commanders grounded their arms and emptied their cartridge-boxes. They were not subject to the mortification of thus submitting under the eye of an exulting foe; for General Gates, with a delicacy and magnanimity of feeling which drew forth the expressed admiration of Burgoyne and his officers, had ordered all his army within his camp out of sight of the vanquished Britons. Col. Wilkinson, who had been sent to the British camp, and in company with Burgoyne selected the place where the troops were to lay down their arms, was the only American officer present at the scene."

This took place on the 17th of October, 1777. It was one of the greatest reverses which had ever befallen the British arms,—and no second discomfiture so ignominious has happily occurred during the seventy-four years which have now elapsed since the name of Saratoga became engraved on the memories of Englishmen. We think it must be considered that when the news of Burgoyne's surrender reached England at the close of 1777, this country entered on perhaps the most trying and painful crisis through which it has passed since the flight of James the Second. Everything was against us:—a weak ministry, a violent opposition, discontent in the towns, the whole country disheartened, the army dispirited, the Continent leagued against us, the fleet dependent for men upon press-gangs in the inland towns and villages, and not a single man was there in the whole compass of the nation who had at once the will and the power to become a deliverer. Still, the crisis was overcome with an amount of difficulty and damage marvellously small; and whenever we hear exclamations of despair uttered now-a-days at the prospects of England, it is no small consolation to be able to look back on the mighty perils which these islands had elasticity and strength enough to surmount in the winter of 1777—8. The news of the Saratoga catastrophe reached London on the 3rd of December, 1777. Parliament had been sitting since the 18th of November; and on the very day before the arrival of the Quebec express, a motion made by Fox in the Commons for certain papers connected with the war had been rejected by 178 votes to 89. Barré heard the news in the early part of the day, and was down early at the House watching for the arrival of Lord George Germaine; and as soon as that official person assumed his seat, the Colonel rising with a stern and solemn countenance demanded to know what was the purport of the latest intelligence from the seat of war. Germaine faltered a good deal in his reply; but he recovered himself before he sat down, and had spirit enough to tell his questioner that if the expedition had failed he had the honour to say that the minister who planned it (meaning himself) was there to answer for the consequences.

But we are running away from Mr. Lossing and his book. Finding Mr. Lossing so well able to clear up obscurities, we turned with considerable interest to the account which we were sure he would insert somewhere of the famous story of Miss M'Crea, who was scalped by the Indians almost within the lines of the British camp in July, 1777. Some of our readers will have fallen in with the controversy which prevailed at one time as to the real facts of this tragic tale. In the discussions which arose in Parliament out of the Saratoga affair, none were of greater interest than those which related to the employment of Indians in the American contest. In the House of Lords some of the finest passages of Lord Chatham's eloquence were called forth by those discussions; and in the House of Commons Burke delivered a speech, on the 6th of February, 1778, which, while it was perhaps one of the most amazing efforts of the genius of that wonderful man, has been almost wholly unpreserved. Burke moved for papers connected with the Indian auxiliaries; and in doing so, condemned in the strongest manner the employment of savages as the allies in war of any civilized or Christian nation. He spoke for three hours and a half to a full and excited House; but to an empty gallery, for the ministers had taken care to lock out every stranger,—and it was in allusion to this circumstance that Governor Johnstone said it was very fortunate for the two noble lords (North and Germaine) that somebody had been so careful of their persons, for if any portion of the public had heard the speech just delivered, ministers would have been in imminent danger of being torn to pieces on their way home. Miss M'Crea's story was turned to great account in Burke's speech. He dwelt on all the circumstances of the sad catastrophe, and heightened in the recital—as only he could heighten—every part of the narrative calculated to produce an impression. There is no doubt that at the time great exaggeration prevailed as to the real facts of the case. Still, the occurrence was painful enough when stripped of every imaginative colouring; and we are thankful to Mr. Lossing for having in the following narrative laid before the world what appears to be a faithful version of an event which exercised no small influence upon the generation that took part in the War of Independence. The following is Mr. Lossing's narrative.—

"The first place of historic interest that we visited at Fort Edward was the venerable and blasted pine-tree near which, tradition asserts, the unfortunate Jane M'Crea lost her life while General Burgoyne had his encampment near Sandy Hill. It stands upon the west side of the road leading from Fort Edward to Sandy Hill, and about half a mile from the canal-lock in the former village. The tree had exhibited unconcealed signs of decadence for several years, and when we visited it, it was sapless and bare. Its top was torn off by a November gale, and almost every breeze diminishes its size by scattering its decayed twigs. The trunk is about five feet in diameter, and upon the bark is engraved, in bold letters, 'Jane M'Crea, 1777. The names of many ambitious visitors are entaglio'd upon it, and reminded me of the line—

Run, run, Orlando, carve on every tree.

I carefully sketched all its branches, and the engraving is a faithful portraiture of the interesting relic, as viewed from the opposite side of the road. In a few years this tree, around which history and romance have clustered so many associations, will crumble and pass away for ever. * * All accounts agree that Miss M'Crea was staying at the house of Mrs. M'Neil, near the fort, at the time of the tragedy. A grandaughter of Mrs. M'Neil (Mrs. F——n) is now living at Fort Edward, and from her I received a minute account of the whole transaction, as she had heard it a 'thousand times' from her grandmother. She was a woman of remarkable intelligence, about sixty years old. When I was at Fort Edward she was on a visit with her sister at Glenn's Falls. It had been my intention to go direct to Whitehall, on Lake Champlain, by way of Fort Ann, but the traditionary accounts in the neighbourhood of the event in question were so contradictory of the books, and I received such assurances that perfect reliance might be placed upon the statements of Mrs. F——n, that anxious to ascertain the truth of the matter, if possible, we went to Lake Champlain by way of Glenn's Falls and Lake George. After considerable search at the falls, I found Mrs. F——n, and the following is her relation of the tragedy at Fort Edward:—Jane M'Crea was the daughter of a Scotch Presbyterian clergyman of Jersey City, opposite New York; and while Mrs. M'Neil (then the wife of a former husband named Campbell) was a resident of New York City, an acquaintance and intimacy had grown up between Jenny and her daughter. After the death of Campbell (which occurred at sea) Mrs. Campbell married M'Neil. He, too, was lost at sea, and she removed with her family to an estate owned by him at Fort Edward. Mr. M'Crea, who was a widower, died, and Jane went to live with her brother near Fort Edward, where the intimacy of former years with Mrs. M'Neil and her daughter was renewed, and Jane spent much of her time at Mrs. M'Neil's house. Near her brother's lived a family named Jones, consisting of a widow and six sons, and between Jenny and David Jones, a gay young man, a feeling of friendship budded and ripened into reciprocal love. When the war broke out the Joneses took the royal side of the question, and David and his brother Jonathan went to Canada in the autumn of 1776. They raised a company of about sixty men, under a pretext of reinforcing the American garrison at Ticonderogo, but they went further down the lake, and joined the British garrison at Crown Point. When Burgoyne collected his forces at St. John's, at the foot of Lake Champlain, David and Jonathan Jones were among them. Jonathan was made captain and David lieutenant in the division under General Fraser, and at the time in question they were with the British army near Sandy Hill. Thus far accounts nearly agree. The brother of Jenny was a whig, and prepared to move to Albany; but Mrs. M'Neil, who was a cousin of General Fraser (killed at Stillwater), was a staunch loyalist, and intended to remain at Fort Edward. When the British were near, Jenny was at Mrs. M'Neil's, and lingered there after repeated solicitations from her brother to return to his house, five miles further

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down the river, to be ready to flee when necessity should compel. A faint hope that she might meet her lover doubtless was the secret of her tarrying. At last her brother sent a peremptory order for her to join him, and she promised to go down in a large bateau which was expected to leave with several families on the following day. Early next morning (July 27th, 1777) a black servant belonging to Mrs. M'Neil espied some Indians stealthily approaching the house, and, giving the alarm to the inmates, he fled to the Fort, about eighty rods distant. Mrs. M'Neil's daughter, the young friend of Jenny, and mother of my informant, was with some friends in Argyle, and the family consisted of only the widow and Jenny, and two small children and a black servant. As usual at that time, the kitchen stood a few feet from the house; and when the alarm was given the black woman snatched up the children, fled to the kitchen, and retreated through a trapdoor to the cellar. Mrs. M'Neil and Jenny followed, but the former being aged and very corpulent, and the latter young and agile, Jenny reached the trap-door first. Before Mrs. M'Neil could fully descend, the Indians were in the house, and a powerful savage seized her by the hair and dragged her up. Another went into the cellar, and brought out Jenny, but the black face of the negro woman was not seen in the dark, and she and the children remained unharmed. With the two women the savages started off, on the road toward Sandy Hill, for Burgoyne's camp; and when they came to the foot of the ascent on which the pine tree stands, where the road forked, they caught two horses that were grazing, and attempted to place their prisoners upon them. Mrs. M'Neil was too heavy to be lifted on the horse easily, and as she signified by signs that she could not ride, two stout Indians took her by the arms and hurried her up the road over the hill, while the others, with Jenny on the horse, went along the road running west of the tree. The negro boy who ran to the fort gave the alarm, and a small detachment was immediately sent out to effect a rescue. They fired several volleys at the Indians, but the savages escaped unharmed. Mrs. M'Neil said, that the Indians who were hurrying her up the hill, seemed to watch the flash of the guns, and several times they threw her upon her face, at the same time falling down themselves, and she distinctly heard the balls whistle above them. When they got above the second hill from the village, the firing ceased; they then stopped, stripped her of all her garments except her chemise, and in that plight led her into the British camp. There she met her kinsman, General Fraser, and reproached him bitterly for sending his 'scoundrel Indians' after her. He denied all knowledge of her being away from the city of New York, and took every pains to make her comfortable. She was so large that not a woman in the camp had a gown big enough for her, so Fraser lent her his camp-coat for a garment, and a pocket handkerchief as a substitute for her stolen cap. Very soon after Mrs. M'Neil was taken into the British camp, two parties of Indians arrived with scalps. She at once recognized the long glossy hair of Jenny, and though shuddering with horror, boldly charged the savages with her murder, which they stoutly denied. They averred that, while hurrying her along the road, on horseback, near the spring west of the pine tree, a bullet from one of the American guns, intended for them, mortally wounded the poor girl, and she fell from her horse. Sure of losing a prisoner by death, they took her scalp as the next best thing to do, and that they bore in triumph to the camp, to obtain the promised reward for such trophies. Mrs. M'Neil always believed the story of the Indians to be true, for she knew that they were fired upon by the detachment from the fort, and it was far more to their interest to carry a prisoner than a scalp to the British commander,—the price for the former being much greater. In fact, the Indians were so restricted by Burgoyne's humane instructions respecting the taking of scalps, that their chief solicitude was to bring a prisoner alive and unharmed into the camp. And the probability that Miss M'Crea was killed as they alleged is strengthened by the fact that they took the corpulent Mrs. M'Neil, with much fatigue and difficulty uninjured to the British lines, while Miss M'Crea, quite light and already on horseback, might have been carried off with far greater ease. It was known in camp that Lieut. Jones was betrothed to Jenny, and the story got abroad that he had sent the Indians for her, that they quarrelled on the way respecting the reward he had offered, and murdered her to settle the dispute. Receiving high touches of colouring as it went from one narrator to another, the sad story became a tale of darkest horror, and produced a deep and wide-spread indignation. * * Burgoyne, who was at Fort Ann, instituted an inquiry into the matter. He summoned the Indians to council, and demanded the surrender of the man who bore off the scalp, to be punished as a murderer. Lieut. Jones denied all knowledge of the matter, and utterly disclaimed any such participation as the sending of a letter to Jenny, or of an Indian escort to bring her to camp. He had no motive for so doing, for the American army was then retreating; a small guard only was at Fort Edward, and in a day or two the British would have full possession, when he could have a personal interview with her. Burgoyne, instigated by motives of policy rather than judgment and inclination, pardoned the savage who scalped poor Jenny, fearing that a total defection of the Indians would be the result of his punishment. Lieut. Jones, chilled with horror and broken in spirit by the event, tendered a resignation of his commission, but it was refused. He purchased the scalp of his Jenny, and with this cherished memento deserted, with his brother, before the army reached Saratoga, and retired to Canada. Various accounts have been given respecting the subsequent fate of Lieut. Jones. Some assert that, perfectly desperate and careless of life, he rushed into the thickest of the battle on Bemis's Heights, and was slain; while others allege that he died within three years afterward, heart-broken and insane. But neither assertion is true. While searching for Mrs. T—n among her friends at Glenn's Falls, I called at the house of Judge R—s, whose lady is related by marriage to the family of Jones. Her aunt married a brother of Lieut. Jones, and she often heard this lady speak of him. He lived in Canada to be an old man, and died but a few years ago. The death of Jenny was a heavy blow, and he never recovered from it. In youth he was gay and exceedingly garrulous, but after that terrible event he was melancholy and taciturn. He never married, and avoided society as much as business would permit. Toward the close of July in every year, when the anniversary of the tragedy approached, he would shut himself in his room, and refuse the sight of any one; and at all times his friends avoided any reference to the Revolution in his presence."

We shall await the appearance of Mr. Lossing's second volume with impatience. We cannot admit that Mr. Lossing is an impartial commentator on a series of historical events which neither his country nor our own can ever forget or undervalue,—but wholesome and open prejudice we can admire, and honesty, ability and research must not be denied their reward.

POETRY OF THE MILLION.

If we have long seemed to neglect our Poets of the Million, it is fitting that on this extreme verge of the year we should give them one more assurance that they are never forgotten. Their perseverance under every possible discouragement is a claim to our regard, if it be a prosaic one,—and their multitude guarantees them against oblivion. Without being satisfied in our consciences that we are doing a friendly act —and at their own risk—we must admit a few representatives of the body to our Christmas board. The minstrels who follow in the train of Father Christmas are for the most part of an order who need that appeal to their good intentions which at this season is so generally allowed. We could find no better time for introducing to the notice of our readers the harpings of the Rev. James Bandinel.—

On the title-page of *Lufra; or, the Convent of Algarve,* by this gentleman, we find once again that ominous admonition which Dante transcribed from the Gates of Punishment:—

Lasciate ogni speranza voi ch' entrate.

This time the warning "pays a double debt,"—since that which Mr. Bandinel meant should apply solely to the Convent of Algarve—from which a Protestant Walter rescued an all-but Papist Angelina—might be fitly written on the portal of his own eight cantos. Hopeless they are for any one whose search is after poetry,—though the notes which follow display controversial reading. Yet diverting as an opera-book is the tale, in spite of its argument. This is aimed at the Vatican,—being the thousandth story based on the rhyme

I won't be a nun,—

solemn, sentimental, and silly.—Here, to prove our words, is an *andante amoroso* hardly to be outdone by Haymarket or Covent Garden poet.

And quickly Walter seeks once more
With eager step the ocean's shore,
And lingers on, impatient there,
The appointed hour—*now, do and dare!*
He eyed the high and rugged steep
Which overhung the foaming deep.
The cliff is scaled—the brow is past,
The Convent garden gain'd at last.

Within a fragrant orange bower,
'Mongst sweetest flowers the sweetest flower,
With hair that stream'd adown her shoulder
And cast aside the fatal veil,
Sat Angelina sad and pale.
How changed from her whose full dark eye
But now beam'd forth so witchingly!—
Thus the Camellia's beauty blows
As lovely as the blushing rose,
Although its charms are stiller, colder.

He mark'd the features sweetly fair,
Swept by the death-blast of despair,
The lips whose lively pulse was still,
The pallid cheek, the forehead chill,
And yet that look of tenderness
E'en now more powerful than distress,
Those angel eyes whose mystic soulbeams shine
Like heavenly light within a holy shrine.

He gazed, in mute devotion gazed,
Then entering, sank on suppliant knee,
And as her eyes she slowly raised,
Cried, "Gentle lady, fear not me."

With brightest crimson glow'd her cheek,
The warm blood rush'd o'er neck and brow.
At length she summon'd strength to speak.
"Stranger, I pray thee, who art thou?
Why com'st thou here, and whence, and how?"

Here is a subsequent *allegro appassionato*, telling how Mr. Bandinel's heroine ran away:—a strain which we seem to see and to hear enacted and ranted *a due* by the Lover in purple velvet, who wears the authentic black cloak of stage-mystery and deliverance, and by the Lady in a loose muslin robe, whose hair, previously confined by a classical diadem, has been let down in readiness for the agonies of the *finale*.—

She kneels in fervent prayer one long lone hour,
Then trembling, trusting, seeks the orange bower.

She ne'er had look'd before that night
So sadly sweet, so softly bright,
Each varied feeling seem'd to speak
In the deep glow of that pale cheek.
There was a glory in her brow
He never had beheld till now:
Her tresses dark behind her thrown,
Her eyes in mellow'd brilliance shone,
Veiling their heavenly orbs from him,
Now meek with love—with tears now dim.
Nor could the circling zone and sable vest
Repress the beauty of her struggling breast.

"Angelina!"—cried De Vere—
"Loveliest, dearest, do not fear,
Trust in him whose heart is given,
Angelina, all to thee,
Who will worship thee next Heaven,
Trust, my Love, O trust to me!"

"But I must cross the pathless sea
Alone—alone—alone with thee!"

Canto the seventh, which immediately succeeds this thrilling scene of elopement, is argumentative,—and may be described as a little *anti*-Scarlet Lady tract, done into the metre of 'The Lady of the Lake.' With the beginning of canto the eighth, "Welcome Britannia," we Hope,—whom, as it may be remembered, we left behind before entering on this love-chase—

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re-appears on the snowy cliffs of Protestant Albion, welcoming the lovers home from Rome, and congratulatng us, as it were, that Mr. Bandinel's poem is nearly done.

Our next flight over the flowery land in which the Million toil lands us in the Principality, under the wing of D. Rice Jones Aberhonddu,—whose *Isolda; or, the Maid of Kidwelly*, dedicated to Lady Charlotte Guest, is less pretending than the moving narrative from the mazes of which we have just extricated ourselves. The author of 'Isolda' modestly enough assures us in his Preface, that should this venture fail to please, he will accept the discouragement, and abstain from further efforts, meekly and cheerfully. The amount of pleasure which may be given by any work somewhat depends on the public addressed. Mr. Jones seems to aim at those who love the old-fashioned elegy, pastoral, and acrostic,—as the following three verses, which commence one of his efforts, will exemplify.—

How different nature's face doth now appear,
To what it did when last I view'd this spot;
Then all was lovely, beautiful, and fair,
But now all things another aspect wear,
And fill my soul with melancholy thought.

The lofty poplar, spreading elm, and beech,
The fav'rite hawthorn, ash, and sycamore
Were clothed with gayest verdure, but now each
In strains more sorrowful than human speech
Tells me, tells all, that Laura is no more.

The beauteous flowers, whose colours charm'd the eye,
And with their splendours deck'd the meadow o'er,
Their balmy odours now to us deny,
Hang down their melancholy heads and die,
For Laura, sweetest Laura, is no more!

Whether there remain any listeners near the Leasowes, or round the Wrekin, or up the Neath valley, or by Llanberris Lake, to be attracted by such faint echoes of the old Arcadian rhymes, we cannot pretend to divine,—though we cannot hesitate to speak to their probable fate with the hard-hearted general public of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Rhymer's Family: a Collection of Bantlings, by Thomas Watson. These are the brain children of a sprightly Scot, who figures a little in his Introductione oncerning the "havings" of poets, the uses of poetry, and the dullness of the public, with the hope of producing a good impression. There is little offence in his volume; and, as often happens in similar collections, we find a ballad or two belonging to that order of homely minstrelsy which may serve pleasantly to beguile ten minutes in the harvest-field or by the chimney-corner, supposing it sung by some country lass who has never heard of Lind, and who would call Moore "affectit,"—as the Ettrick Shepherd's tailor called the Ettrick Shepherd when the latter was grammatical. Such a strain, for instance, is

The Warning.

The ladye sat within her bower,
In ward o' maidens fair,
And listened to the wailing wind
Wi' meikle dool and care.
"I hear, I hear a mournfu' voice
That mak's sad melodie;
I hear a strain, wi' sad refrain,
Oh, turn thee, love, and flee!

"The cauld drift fa's on waste and wold,
The piercin' wind blaws keen;
It's no the sheets o' driven snaw
My love should lie between.
Fu' hard is winter's icy heart,
But harder man's may be,
And lang may beat in deadly hate—
Oh, turn ye, love, and flee!

"In Lyndoch lieth hounds in leash,
And lurketh vengeful men;
In Methven's dismal, dreary woods
Is mony a darksome den;
The Almond o'er its rocky bed
Rins roaring to the sea:
My heart is sair—I can nae mair—
Oh, turn ye, love, and flee!

"Hark! Is't the bay o' fierce bloodhound?
Or i'st the howling wind?"—
The ladye's face is deadly pale,
And wandering is her mind:
Her true love, till the day o' doom,
She never mair will see;
But aye she sings the sad refrain—
"Oh, turn ye, love, and flee!"

—The above might pass with such a peasant-public as we have indicated for romance and tragedy. We could quote more than one effort in the same style by worshipful and renowned lyrists, printed in "Bee's" and other anthologies, and copied in albums essentially less worthy than the song just given.

Of *Love and Loyalty*, by the Author of 'Irrelagh,' it will be best perhaps to print the argument.—

"Invocation to the Deity; two Seraphs (Love and Loyalty) descried descending earthwards; their genial influence over Britain, illustrated by George the Third's subjects' pity for his insanity; Loyalty without Love is lifeless; joyful anticipation of Christ's second advent, when Love shall truly embrace Loyalty; subject further illustrated by the lamented death of the Princess Charlotte and infant; mysterious majesty of the soul; universal grief at the death of William the Fourth. Scene changed from shade to sunshine by the gorgeously solemn coronation of Queen Victoria, and attendant exuberances of Loyal love and delight; Lament over the beloved Queen Adelaide. Joyous birth of the young Prince Albert; superstition subversive of Loyalty and Royalty; that Love wedded to Loyalty produces Industry and a desire for universal love and brotherhood, proved by the invitation of all Nations to the Crystal Palace; the opening scene; the cause of Erin advocated; her sufferings and unmurmuring resignation; her triumphant struggles against a dark creed; Britain cautioned against the wiliness of Popery; for, to the Protestant Religion is she indebted for her prosperity. Anticipated millennial reign of Christ, with Love and Loyalty embracing his beloved feet; Satan bound, and Mankind blest. Appeal to Britain to spread TRUE civilization through the veins of the whole World through the medium of Holy Writ; a second appeal from Erin for the protection and kindly assistance of her more happy and blessed sister-isle; by granting which, the cords of loyal *bondage* wherewith she is bound to England shall be exchanged for those of Loyal love and esteem; the consequent firm-based glory and union of the British Isles."

No poet, we imagine, could fill up an outline so mysterious, glowing, and altogether amazing as this. The author of 'Irrelagh' has given his little all, we admit, in performance of his task,—and so, we will not shame the strength and loftiness of his purpose by contrasting it with the gentleness of his performance.—Indeed, anything from the Poets of the Million must sound tame after an argument like this,—and here therefore we will take leave of them, with all good wishes, for the present year.

The Peloponnesus: a Geographical and Historical Description of that Peninsula—[*Peloponnesos, &c.*]. By Ernst Curtius. Vol. I. Gotha, Perthes; London, Dulau & Co.

This is the first half of a work the completion of which in a second volume is promised forthwith. It may be expected with interest, on the strength of what is already published, as likely to prove the most complete topography of the Grecian Peninsula, in connexion with its entire series of historic events, that has yet been produced. In the volume now before us, the author enters on his task with a full apparatus of scholarship to aid the personal survey of the scientific traveller:—and scans the material features of the land—not forgetting the present in the past—with a minuteness that will be prized as well by the student at home, as by the tourist who may hereafter visit the Peloponnesus, filled with its heroic traditions and famous histories, and longing to recall them on the very spots where they arose. This, in the Morea of our day, is not to be realized by mere wishes. Of the cities and temples the names of which are a spell to cultivated minds—of Orchomenus and Elis, of Argos and of Messene—nearly all traces have vanished from the soil. The true sites even are in many cases uncertain; and the pilgrim must be led by the scholar to scenes which now can be determined only by learned inquiry. It is easy to smile at enthusiasm thus directed to the objects of its devotion, which by the erroneous reading of an old text, or mistake of some present feature of the scene, may expend itself in a false direction,—in the absence of actual remains and in default of all traditional certainty. But so long as it lies in human nature to hallow the graves of heroes and the shades of illustrious nations, this worship, however imaginary, will be renewed; and he is surely entitled to thanks by whose pious diligence the true object of its pursuit is raised to light from the wreck of time or war and the effacing processes of nature,—so that all may henceforth enjoy whatsoever belongs to the assurance that the very spot on which they stand was once dignified by the bright intellect or the brave deeds, by marvels of Art or mysteries of civil wisdom, the mental images of which will for ever be among the most precious of human possessions.

There is something, too, in the Peloponnesus that time has not been able wholly to obliterate,—much that remains nearly unchanged by nature, through the lapse of ages. Erymanthus still wears its crown of black forests, as in the fabulous days when Diana chased the bear in its gorges: her favourite Eurotas rolls on to the Laconian gulf the same clear waters on the banks of which she "led her virgin choir." The wide Elian plain still expands itself to the sun, as when it sounded with the triumphs of Olympic games; and the valleys of Arcadia, vocal as of old with the music of Ladon and Alpheius, are green to this day with the sweet herbage which once the shepherd deity chose for the flocks he loved.—The mythology, the human glories even, of the Peloponnesus are now grown visionary; but the land itself is a living witness yet;—and keeps its perennial monuments, to guide the wanderer who seeks the devastated place where such visions had once a real existence.

The remains or remembrances of heroic or classic times are not, however, exclusively regarded in the present survey. In any view of Greece they will of course take the foremost place,—their relics or sites must be the chief object of research. But in addition to this, Dr. Curtius follows out the later history of the Peninsula, as related to its topical features; so that whatever recalls the Roman or the Byzantine periods, or those darker times that followed through Norman, Venetian and Mohammedan conquests down to the present day, finds its due place in his pages,—which also describe the Peloponnesus as it now exists. The choreographic notices form a valuable part of this account; the alternations of hill and valley, the course and character of rivers, the elevations of basins and table lands, and the lines of mountain ridges,—all the conditions, in short, which so materially influenced the early civilization and later politics of the Peloponnesus, are traced with precision, and made clearer by maps and profile sections. Nearly all, indeed, that is comprised in the term "physical geography" has been observed and recorded; and the result is, a closer view of the outward form and structure of the land than has been afforded in any other publication that we have seen. In this respect the work improves with scientific exactness and detail upon the happy idea of Dr. Wordsworth,—whose bold sketches of topographic landmarks constitute a chief merit of his well-known 'Description of Greece.'

The present volume contains, besides the general preliminary view of the whole Peninsula in its various relations, detailed surveys of Arcadia and Achaia only:—Corinthia, Argolis,

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Laconia, Messenia, and Elis remain to be described in the following section of the work. Being confined to the Peloponnesus, its plan excludes the territory which of all others has most illustrated the name of Greece,—with others rich alike in historic sites and in poetic recollections. It may, however, be hoped that the provinces lying north and east of the Crissœan Gulf may become the subject of a future description,—if not as exact and minute as this of the Peloponnese promises to be, at least as complete as can be made under the rule which prevails in the regions north of Parnassus. The educated stranger in Greece would then possess a *vade mecum*, armed with which he would be nearly independent of other modern aids to a knowledge of its entire territory.

ALMANACS FOR 1852.

First on our remaining list of these useful publications is *The Literary and Scientific Register and Almanac*, compiled by Mr. J. W. G. Gutch. This annual is now in the eleventh year of its age, and with every new year it seems to grow more varied and valuable in its contents. Besides the usual information required in a pocket-book—lists of royal households, Members of Parliament, law officers, calendars, and such matters—it contains a vast collection of elementary facts, outlines of science, and art compendiums. A work of this sort, professing to give an epitome and representation of the state of science at the beginning of each year, must of course be susceptible of continual improvements,—and we notice that several new paragraphs and tables have been added to the present issue. Altogether, Mr. Gutch's annual makes an extremely useful pocket companion to the man of letters, science, or art.

Enlarged by the addition of twenty-four pages, *Rees's Improved Diary and Almanac* puts forth its double series of ruled pages—one set for memoranda, the other for cash receipts and payments—as its chief claims on the attention of a buying and selling, a paying and receiving community; but it also contains the common intelligence of an almanac.

The Meteorological Almanac is this year dedicated to M. Arago; whom, nevertheless, its weather-wise compiler takes roundly to task for declaring it to be his opinion that "weather prophecy can never be a branch of astronomy." The usual guesses at which days next year will be wet or dry, mild or stormy, are made and put on record. Mr. Donovan is a little above the mendacious tribe of Raphaels and Zadkiels,—and only a little.

Punch is more pictorial than usual in his Almanac, but we cannot say that his efforts with the pencil this year bear comparison with those of the times gone by. His blithe Christmas faces lack somewhat of the round joyous humour which belonged to the mummers and masqueraders whom he formerly sent forth at this season. The letterpress, too, is very uneven; though some of the same kind of sparkle which made his reputation still remains:—as witness the following hints, waggeries, and admonitions.—

"*Moral of the Mistletoe.*—If you print a kiss—don't publish it."

"*Excess of Caution.*—An elderly single gentleman, travelling by railway, objected to go in the same carriage with his sister-in-law's wet nurse, for fear of catching cold."

"*Travelling Extraordinary.*—On Christmas-day an alderman of the city of London having eaten his beef at Clapham, walks in less than five minutes' time into Turkey."

"*Theatrical.*—Two eminent Actors, one of a past age, the other living, make one mountebank. How do you make that out? Harley-Quin."

"*Philosophy of Mesmerism.*—It is related, as astonishing, that there are some clairvoyants who can see right through anybody; but that is not so very strange. The wonder is that there should be anybody who cannot see through the clairvoyant."

"*Con. for those whom it may concern.*—When does a man love his favoured rival?—When he loves a flirt whose beloved object is herself."

"*A Shining Character.*—'My character,' said an alderman who had cleared himself from a charge of jobbery, 'my character, sir, is like my boots—all the brighter for blacking.'"

"*A Good Hand of Cards for a Happy Couple.*—Lots of Hearts, a sprinkling of Diamonds, no Clubs, and one Spade—last card of all—between the partners."

"*A Goose that saves the 'Capital'* is a goose sent you by a friend, with the carriage paid."

"*Mathematical.*—If Whigs and Tories are both rogues, why are they like an equilateral triangle?—Because both sides are equal to the base."

"*The best Fuel for a Christmas Fire.*—Remembrance of all Wrongs—Revenge of all Injuries."

"*Comfort for Farmers and Others.*—Whatever may be the effect of Free Trade on the price of corn, it certainly will not prevent the people at large from kneading bread."

"*Ecclesiastical Information*—Candles were first introduced into churches in the day time during the dark ages."

"*Question for Naturalists.*—Why is the pelican like Mr. Hobbs?—Because he is celebrated for picking his chest."

Of about the same calibre are the following set of definitions:—

"*Liberty.*—An angel till we gain her, and a woman afterwards."

"*Dogma by a D.D.*—Old Port, with a crust, is meat and drink."

"*Gambler.*—A rogue amongst fools, and a fool amongst rogues."

"*Reformer.*—A person known first, as a 'Visionary'; then, as a 'Quack'; then, as a 'Benefactor.'"

"*Chivalry.*—The *aurora borealis* of the dark ages."

"*The Emblem of Foolhardiness.*—sheep's head and pluck."

"*America.*—A spirited lad who beat his big brother for bullying him, but who will join him as partner in business when they both become men."

The verse is somewhat plentiful in this year's almanac; but it is of no very high quality. The following lines have at least the merit of being "in season."

L'Envoy.

Fades on the hearth the last faint ember;
  Hark! 'tis the death-watch ticking clear!
O'er the grey ashes Nurse December
  Dozes beside the dying year:
While strangely on the winter air
  Sound health and song from nigh at hand,
Where they are toasting the Old Year's heir,
  That soon will come into his land.

The old dies out, the new comes in;
  So runs the world since it began.
Time blunts grief's tooth in closest kin—
  'Tis with the year as with the man;
The New Year turns to scant account
  The lessons that the Old Year taught;
Stored wit and wealth, whate'er the amount,
  In heirs' loose hands soon come to naught.

But a great purpose worketh still
  In spending, as in saving, seen;
It is the glacier feeds the rill
  Which makes the valley glad and green:
Then let the Old Year's corse grow cold;
  Close up his eyes and veil his face,
And welcome in the New Year bold,
  That steps into his father's place.

The Educational Almanac, compiled by the Rev. G. H. Farr, concerns itself chiefly, as its name will suggest, with practical information about teachers, training-schools, and education tables, extracts and statistical matter of interest to persons engaged in the actual business of tuition.

To this enumeration of almanacs we must add, a little elegant trifle intended, we suppose, for a lady's dressing-table or boudoir. It is called the *Perfumed Almanac*:—and is, a small calendar printed on light-coloured silk, with a narrow edging of what seems to be white stamped paper,—the silk strained over cards which inclose some species of scent.

The Bolton Almanac and Year-Book of Local and General Information, we do not remember to have seen before. It is a cheap and careful compilation, especially in matters of local interest. We are glad to see the rise and success of intelligent local manuals like this, for the works which they displace are generally of a trashy or pernicious kind. Works such as the *Bolton Almanac*, undertaken with honest purpose and executed with literary conscientiousness, place information of the most useful and durable kind within daily reach of the poorer and more ignorant classes. Almanac literature has been a great evil in England: but in spite of the continued existence of some of its worst specimens, the circulation of local works of good character would go far to supersede them in a few years.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Kossuth in England: his Progress and Speeches. With a Biographical Sketch, an Account of his Interviews with the Public Deputations, and a Poetical Farewell from Old England.—The reports of M. Kossuth's speeches in England seem to have been collected with some care from the newspapers by the compiler of this pamphlet,—who has also supplied notes, comments, summaries, and elucidations of his own. It is matter of regret that all the speeches are not given—and at their full length. What is wanted, is—not the version which a particular newspaper thought proper for its own purposes to give—but as faithful a report as can now be recovered from the collation of all by a person of intelligence and taste:—and that, the present Editor with more time might have supplied. The speeches of M. Kossuth constitute a sort of interrupted monologue, or rather oratorical series, like the Philippics and the Verrine Orations. The literary artist feels that something is lost to the whole if any one be omitted.—For example, the few words spoken at the landing in Southampton are not given in this new collection.

Miss Martineau and her Master. By J. Stevenson Bushnan, M.D.—This little *jeu d'esprit* has lain on our table some time; and we have taken it up occasionally with the idea of saying something about it, but have always put it down again after reading some pages. The title is taking,—and a very amusing and instructive book might have been written on the subject. But Dr. Bushnan's can hardly claim to be either; and there is at times a certain roughness of manner in it which detracts altogether from the effect of the more serious rebuke intended by its author to be administered to the lady. In parts it is undoubtedly clever,—the philosophy may be sound and the learning accurate; but the attempts at wit and satire fail. Altogether, we cannot but regard it as a good idea imperfectly realized.

Geography for Elementary Schools. First Course. By Edward Hughes.—This is another of those useful manuals for which the cause of education owes so much to Mr. Hughes. It is intended to meet the difficulty of teaching geography intellectually to the young—a difficulty which Mr. Hughes considers to reside less in the subject than in the manner of treating it;—and contains the substance of lessons which in actual experience have been found interesting to children.

Land Drainage, Embankment, and Irrigation: their practical Application, Cost, probable Profit, and the proper Season for such Undertakings. By James Donald.—A little treatise, clear in matter and methodical in arrangement, on the theory and practice of draining and irrigation. We can express no opinion on the points at issue between professed drainers,—but we can say that they appear to be stated with fairness by Mr. Donald. His book can hardly fail to be useful to persons engaged in agriculture.

Among the books which may be conveniently disposed of in a single paragraph we find on our table—*Philip Doddridge, his Life and Labours*, a centenary rhapsody by Mr. John Stoughton,—*The Triple Crown; or, the Power, Course and Doom of the Papacy*, from the pen of Dr. Urwick, and in the most trenchant spirit of the Irish partisan press,—four thick volumes entitled *Spiritual Exposition of the Apocalypse*, written by the Rev. Augustus Clissold, a professed expounder of the views and method of Emanuel Swedenborg,—the third part of Mr. James Elliott's *Elementary Course of Practical Mathematics*,—*The English Bee Keeper*, a series of suggestions, made by an experienced country curate, on the practical management of amateur and cottage apiaries based on scientific principles,—Mr. Scrivenor's *Railways of the United Kingdom statistically considered*, a work of value to persons engaged in railway speculations or railway management,—an essay by Mr. Charles Atherton, of the Devonport dockyard, *On Marine Engine Construction and Classification*, undertaken with a view to promote the greater efficacy of the steam fleet service, both commercial and national,—a *First Class-book on Astronomy*, the object of which seems to be the illustration and advertisement of certain pieces of lecture-room apparatus,—an interesting *Manual of Electro-Metallurgy*, by Mr. James Napier, including the application of the art to processes of manufacture,—a little volume by Mr. G. B. Moore on *The Principles of Colour applied to Decorative Art*, in which the writer, assuming from the success of the interior decoration of the Crystal Palace that Englishmen will now cease to deaden their interiors with the heavy

colours so long in use, treats the subject from a scientific point of view,—*Directions for testing Cane-juice*, by Dr. Shier, purporting to explain the exact quantity of quick-lime required to temper a given quantity of cane-juice, and giving practical instructions for conducting the process of clarification,—and Cœlebs's *Laws and Practice of Whist*. —Dr. Kitto's *Daily Bible Illustrations*, a series of readings in sacred history, biography, geography, and antiquities,—*Ezekiel and the Book of his Prophecy*, by the Rev. Patrick Fairbairn,—Dr. Hawthorne's *Doctrine of the Trinity not a Doctrine of Divine Origin*,—Dr. Cumming's *Foreshadows, or Lectures on our Lord's Miracles, as Earnests of the Age to come*,—Dr. Isaac Da Costa's *The Four Witnesses*,—and Mr. Baillie Roe's *Analytical Arrangement of the Holy Scriptures* are works which we cannot—while *The Mercantile Navy List*—*Aphorisms of Napoleon*—*Oxford University Statutes*—and *Assurance and Annuity Tables* are works which we need not—discuss in the columns of the *Athenæum*.

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THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

A circumstance of considerable importance with reference to the fate of Sir John Franklin and his companions has been disclosed by Capt. Penny. He states that, when lately at Peterhead, he was informed by Capt. Martin, who commanded the whaling ship Enterprise in 1845, that he was the last person who communicated with Sir John. According to his statement, the Enterprise was alongside the Erebus in Melville Bay; and Sir John —who seems, unlike Capt. Austin, to have thought that his rank would sustain itself, and his dignity suffer no derogation by association—with a brave whaling captain—invited Capt. Martin to dine with him. This invitation Capt. Martin declined, as the wind was fair to go south. Sir John, while conversing with Capt. Martin, told him that he had five years' provisions, which he could make last for seven; and that his people were busily engaged in salting down birds,—of which they had several casks full already, and twelve men were out shooting more.

Capt. Penny asked Capt. Martin why he had not mentioned this circumstance before? The latter stated that he did not at first think it of any importance,—and that when Lady Franklin was at Peterhead about two years ago, he did not like to intrude on her. Capt. Penny adds, that Capt. Martin is a man of the strictest integrity,—on whose word he can most fully rely.

Notwithstanding this guarantee, we cannot unhesitatingly accept, without further inquiries, all Capt. Martin's statements. We do not doubt his having communicated with Sir John Franklin at a later date than the 26th of July 1845, when he was seen by Capt. Dannett of the Prince of Wales whaler in Melville Bay. He was then waiting for an opening to push towards Lancaster Sound; and as a lead might present itself at a moment's notice, we can scarcely think that he would incur the risk of delay by sending out shooting parties. Nor do we think it likely that Sir John Franklin could have stated that he was provisioned for five years, when, as is well known, his provisions were only calculated to last three years on the ordinary allowance. Lieut. Griffith, who had the command of the store ship from which they were supplied, says:—"We left them with every species of provisions *for three entire years*, independently of five bullocks which they were consuming, the weather not being sufficiently cold to keep or freeze them, as was originally intended."† It is, of course, probable that Sir John Franklin, with his customary care and forethought, husbanded his resources,—and *that* at so early a period, that they lasted for four or it may be five years; but we do not think he could have hoped that they would hold out for seven.—It is only on the score of memory as to details that we have the slightest intention of impeaching Capt. Martin's statement. Some such communication with Sir John Franklin, implying the expansive nature of the latter's provisions and his forethought in husbanding them, doubtless took place. Capt. Martin is to be excused for not having mentioned so important a circumstance as he has now divulged at first; but we consider that he is to blame for remaining silent during so many years and in view of all that has been passing,—particularly as he appears to have been residing in Scotland.

In our late review of the Arctic Searching Expeditions we omitted to state a fact which renders the history of those Expeditions even more distressing than we represented. It appears, that neither Capt. Austin nor Capt. Penny, nor any of their officers, were aware that Sir John Franklin proposed depositing his communications, not *in* or *under* cairns, but about ten feet from them, in a direction indicated by a finger-post to be erected on the cairn. Thus, while the cairn on Beechey Island was searched, the ground around it was not examined at the requisite depth;—and it is therefore highly probable that despatches are at this moment lying in the *cache* pointed out by the finger-post.

But even the cairns themselves were not sufficiently examined. Capt. Austin, in his evidence before the Committee, states:—"We went to a cairn, took it down, and examined it *to a certain extent*, —*but not in the way we were satisfied it should be examined.*" This confession is most extraordinary; and had Capt. Austin stood before an open tribunal, the question must have been put:—Why did you not, as Commander of the Expedition, carry your official instructions into effect, which directed you to examine diligently all places likely to afford trace or record of the missing Expedition? But the Committee of naval officers heard their brother officer's strange and jaunty admission of neglect without any remark,—and passed on to other matters.

Thus, were it only for the purpose of searching the vicinity of the cairn on Beechey Island another Expedition would be imperatively demanded. It is quite possible that a memorandum will be there found which will give us the certain route of the missing ships. That some document will be discovered we confidently believe:—the existence of the cairn itself being strong testimony in favour of this conclusion.

† Conceiving that it would be interesting to know the exact quantity of provisions supplied to the Erebus and Terror, we obtained the following returns from the Admiralty.—Preserved meat, in tin canisters, 32,018 lb.; soup, *pints*, 17,416; gravy, *pints*, 2,176; vegetables, 8,676 lb.; potatoes, 2,632 lb.

Later intelligence from Behring's Straits puts us in possession of a melancholy fact respecting an officer of the Enterprise searching ship.

Lieut. Barnard and Mr. E. Adams, assistant surgeon, had been left at Michaelowski, the Russian trading port in Norton Sound, in October 1850, for the purpose of collecting information of the missing Expedition from the Russian posts and from the natives inland. In pursuance of this object, Lieut. Barnard with an interpreter had gone early in January to a distant post,—intending to communicate, if possible, with some of the neighbouring chiefs. During the night the post was surrounded by a large body of Ko-yu-kuk Indians; several of whom at daybreak entered the principal dwelling and killed the Russian governor. Lieut. Barnard and the interpreter, who were in the same house, made such resistance as drove the Indians out of the house. The latter then laid siege to the post,—sheltering themselves behind wooden shields, stuck upright in the snow; but one of the party being soon afterwards shot, the whole retired to an Esquimaux village at some distance, —where they committed great cruelties, killing upwards of sixty natives, including women and children. Lieut. Barnard died of his wounds on the afternoon of the day following the attack.

Mr. Adams, on hearing of the event at Michaelowski, proceeded with a number of Russians to the distant post; where he found the body of his late companion.

The death of Mr. Whitehead, of the Enterprise, clerk in charge, is also reported. He died while the ship was on her passage from Hong Kong to Port Clarence.

The season is stated to have been late for those seas. The ice floating about till the end of July has caused many disasters:—no less than eleven or twelve vessels having been lost, but not many lives.

Among the ships endangered by being "beset" were the Enterprise and Dædalus near St. Lawrence Island. The line of ice in the Arctic Sea has been found in a lower latitude than in the two preceding years.

There is no account of the Investigator:—which confirms our impression that she has entered the ice.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.

THOUGH this is not the season of the year when the Zoological Gardens present the full circle of their attraction,—a quick walk round them on a frosty morning will, at least, show the visitor that the cold weather does not impede the activity of the secretary, nor prevent the arrival of new creatures. As the increase of the number of persons visiting

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the gardens, so has been the increased ability of the Society to add to the number of their animals, &c. —the receipts in Regent's Park are made to re-act on the deserts of Africa and the forests of America, and to draw from their hiding-places the wild beasts of the earth.

Since we last noticed the gardens, many additions and some alterations have been made. Amongst the most noteworthy of the creatures that have lately arrived is the Apteryx, or Kiwi. This bird is a native of New Zealand,—and interesting as being almost the last of that group of wingless birds which seem in former times to have overspread that island. Of the living history of the great mass of the species of these birds we know nothing. Of one genus, the Notornis, Mr. Mantell seems to have captured the last of its race. The Apteryx is also fast disappearing under the influence of civilization, and, like the Dodo, bids fair to leave nothing but its head and claws behind. Hence, the interest which, as we have said, attaches to the safe arrival of a living specimen in this country. There are three species of this genus known. They are all strictly nocturnal in their habits; and, in consequence of this, it has been thought desirable to prevent the present specimen from being disturbed by visits during the day. It is utterly incapable of flight,—having merely rudimentary wings. It has very diminutive eyes,—and during the day very imperfect vision. Its legs are so far back, that when standing in any other than the erect position it is obliged to have recourse for additional support to its beak,—on which it rests. This part has been hardened towards its point for that purpose. The feathers of this bird are very peculiar in appearance; and combine with its almost globular body when in a state of repose to give it a very strange appearance,—presenting few of the characteristics that distinguish the other classes of animals. The safe arrival of this curious bird is a subject for congratulation in another point of view:—as it affords further proof that animals which had been supposed to be perfectly incapable of restraint and transport may yet be added to our living collections. We may now hope ere long to chronicle the arrival of the Ornithorhynchus and the Echidna,—of cages of humming birds,—and of the dolphin and the whale. —For this very valuable addition to the ornithological treasures of the gardens the Society is indebted to Lieut.-Governor Eyre. A great number of other animals have been added, to a variety of classes: —they include twenty-two species of mammalia, thirty of birds, and twelve of reptiles. Amongst the mammalia are a pair of magnificent tigers, presented by his Highness the Guicowar of Baroda,—who exercises great power in Western India. It is to be hoped that the sovereigns of other parts of India may follow this excellent example. The collection of monkies has been greatly extended by recent additions. Mr. Alderman Finnis has presented a Syrian bear,—and with this addition the collection of the species of bear in these gardens is one of the largest ever made.

The additions to the reptile department include several species not before possessed by the Society. Amongst others, there is a specimen of the yellow snake (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), from Jamaica,—which has produced young since it has been in the gardens. Two Iguanas—one from Cuba, the other from Carthagena—have been added. These creatures are a source of interest as bearing so close a resemblance in everything but size to the gigantic fossil Iguanodon;—the presence of whose bones in large quantities in our island attests that it was once not a curiosity shut up in a garden, like its degenerate representative, but a native of our forests and of the banks of our streams. Amongst the expected arrivals in the reptile-house was a magnificent specimen of the Anaconda (*Eunectes murinus*), forwarded, by Mr. Strutt, Stipendiary Magistrate at Berbice. This creature—which measured above twelve feet in length, and would have been one of the largest serpents in the collection—unfortunately died in its passage to this country. It was in the same ship with the Boa which, arriving in good health and great appetite, mistook its blanket for a rabbit. The creature disgorged its blanket on the 8th of November,—and has since taken but one wholesome meal. It is evidently in delicate health,—suffering from the effects of its injudicious repast.

The additions of which we have spoken are independent of the purchases made by the Society at the sale of the collection of the late Earl of Derby. It is much to be regretted that this unrivalled collection of animals has been permitted to be scattered. We cannot, however, blame the Zoological Society;—for they had not the funds to purchase nor the space to keep the herds of beautiful antelopes and other ruminants which it had been the pride of Lord Derby's life to procure and rear. But Government might have assisted them in this matter,—rather than allow a collection which a nobleman could make and maintain with his private fortune to come to the hammer of the auctioneer. The Society has, however, done what it could; and it is fortunate for the science of Great Britain that Lord Derby's collection was swept from the acres of Knowsley at a season when of all others the Council was best able to spare funds. The following list of animals purchased at Knowsley will show what important additions have been made to both mammalia and birds.

Species.	*Native Country.*	*Place of Exhibition.*
Antelopes.		
5 Elands (bequeathed) ..	S. Africa	Giraffe House, W.
2 Leucoryx	W. Africa & Egypt	,, (wing
Sing-Sing	W. Africa	Sheds near Giraffe
Harte-Beeste	S. Africa	,, (House
2 Bonte-Boks	S. Africa	,,
2 Korinne Gazelles	W. Africa	,,
2 Four-horned Antelopes	India	Ostrich House
Duiker-Bok	S. Africa	,,
Cattle.		
Danta Bull	W. Africa	Near Wapiti House
Deer, &c.		
Barasingha	N. India	Wapiti House
Moluccan Deer..........	Indian Archipelago	Near Museum
Burchell's Zebra..........	S. Africa	Wapiti House
Cape Hyrax	S. Africa	Small Quadruped
Squirrel	S. America	,, (House
Rapacious Birds.		
Cinereous Vulture..........		Eagle Aviary
2 Ibicter Aquilinus	S. America	Old Aviary
Milvago Australis	S. America	,,
Milvago Chimango..........	S. America	Small Aviary
Vulturine Eagle	S. Africa	Eagle Aviary
Martial Eagle	,,	,,
Coronet Eagle	,,	,,
Bateleur Eagle	,,	,,
Black Kite..........	W. Africa	Parrot House Inclo-
Cape Owl..........	S. Africa	Bison House (sure
Spotted-eared Owl	,,	,,
Insessorial Birds.		
White Chatterer	S. America	Small Aviary
Malabar Grakle	China	,,
Canton Grakle	India	,,
Whydah Bird	S. Africa	,,
Blue Grosbeak	N. America	,,
Chilian Finch	Chili	,,
Diuca	,,	,,
Rasorial Birds.		
Prince Albert's Curassow	S. America	New Aviary
Purple Guan..........	,,	,,
Californian Quail	California	,,
Tataupa Tinamoo	S. America	,,
Rufescant Tinamoo	,,	,,
2 Chilian Tinamous	Chili	,,
Clapperton's Francolin ..	S. Africa	,,
2 Cape Francolins	,,	,,
,, Francolin	,,	,,
Chuckar Partridge	India	Old Aviary
2 Abyssinian Pintados ..	Abyssinia	,,
Grallatorial Birds.		
Port Essington Rail	N. Australia	New Aviary
Wattled Crane..........	S. Africa	,,
Sacred Ibis	W. Africa	,,
Bald Ibis	India	,,
Chilian Ibis	Chili	,,
Spur-winged Plover	W. Africa	,,
Hooded Plover	,,	,,
Natatorial Birds.		
4 Black-necked Swans ..	Chili	Camel House Lawn
Mountain Casarca	S. Africa	Aviary Lawn
2 Royal Sarkidiornis..........	W. Africa	,,
2 Magellanic Geese..........	S. America	,,
Treeduck	India	Old Aviary
Hybrid Duck	Knowsley	,,
2 Bahama Ducks	W. Indies	Parrot House Pond
Chilian Duck	Chili	,,
Indian Duck	India	,,
3 Crimson-Bill Ducks ..	S. Africa	Island Pond
2 Guilbers	,,	,,
Snow Ende	,,	,,

In order to locate such large accessions, additional accommodation has been demanded. Thus, additions have been made to the carnivora houses, and to the giraffe house. The animals arranged in the latter occupy not less than two hundred and five feet. We feel that this is a point of vital importance to the Society. Overcrowded cages and dens, like overcrowded cities, engender disease. To be penny wise in this matter is to be pound foolish. Many of the houses in the Gardens give unmistakeable symptoms of being too small for their inhabitants. Take for example the monkey-house, the small carnivora-house, the parrot-house, as well as the dens of the larger carnivora. The noble lions and tigers are mewed up in space utterly inadequate to secure the perfect health and beauty of these superb creatures.

Our readers will perhaps be surprised to hear that the house which contained Mr. Gould's humming birds is doomed to destruction, if it is not already razed to the ground. The Society rents its land from the Woods and Forests; and in the particular locality in which this house was situated no permanent building is allowed to be erected. No solicitation could induce the Commissioners to give way, although it was known that the Royal President had exerted himself in favour of this collection and its house. We are glad, however, to be able to add, that the public will not be immediately deprived of the sight of these beautiful little creatures; as Mr. Gould has placed them for twelve months longer at the disposal of the Society, —and, with upwards of a hundred new species, they will be exhibited again in another part of the Gardens.

The number of visitors to the Gardens during the whole of the past year cannot, we fancy, have fallen far short of one million.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Leicester Square is and has been a centre of many attractions. Education has there set up more than one of her temples,—history placed there one of her interesting monuments,—the arts and sciences are there erecting for themselves a home. Among these various pretensions, let us say one word in honour of the humanities that conceal themselves in the same locality within the prosaic brick walls of the Soup Kitchen. At this season of kindly and clement sentiment and cold and inclement weather, it is pleasant to find that the poor are not forgotten by their wealthier neighbours,—that the charities which belong of ancient right to the time and its associations are not of those which Sheridan described as beginning at home and never stirring abroad. It is worth a record here that on Christmas Day—that day of feasting wherever men *can feast*—largess was given out from the Leicester Square Soup Kitchen to ten thousand poor families who must otherwise have had no share in the festive spirit of the time. The gift would be all the more welcome that it took the orthodox Christmas features. It included the canonical Roast Beef and Plum Pudding,—with an addition of tea, coffee, sugar and other good things. Fancy ten thousand homes made happier, some gleams of generous emotion and thought befitting the benignant season thrown across forty or fifty thousand of the saddest hearts in this imperial city! The physical gain is understood at once. The very names of the time-honoured viands suggest the appetite (ten thousand power) and its satisfaction. But the material feast—in its suggestion of avowed brotherhood—is seasoned with moral condiments far more precious than itself. We mention this because, on the whole, society—though it has not forgotten, and we hope never will forget—the benevolent spirit which has long characterized "merrie Englande" at this most genial of Christian festivals—is not always as ready as it might be to remember that when—

> In rich men's halls the fire is piled,
> And ermine robes keep out the weather—
> In poor men's huts the fire is low,
> Through broken panes the keen winds blow,
> And old and young are cold together.

We hope to see the example of the Leicester Square "Kitchen" taken up by all the parishes of London; so that out of the free offerings of competence the hearts of the poor and deserving may be made glad for at least one day in the dreary winter time. That there is sufficient humane feeling in the metropolis we have no doubt—there needs only a little organization in the several districts. New Year's Day has yet to come:—and that, too, is from time immemorial a common festival, at which many and many a hungry parent and child must be absent unless their brother will pay for them.

Mr. Harry Luttrell, "a wit among lords and a lord among wits," died at his house in Brompton Crescent on the 19th inst., in the eighty-first year of his age. He was the friend of Sydney Smith and of Mr. Rogers, and the wit who set the table

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in a roar at Holland House when Whig supremacy in the patronage of letters was rather laughed at in political circles. Like many other men of reputation for happy sayings,—his printed performances do little justice to the talents which he himself possessed. Yet there are wit and remarkable ease, in a tripping style of versification, in his 'Letters to Julia.'

The second portion of the library of the late Mr. Edward Drummond Hay, sold during the present week by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, contained the presentation copy to Henry Prince of Wales of 'The Worldes Hydrographical Description,' a rare little volume by John Davis, whose name is known to every schoolboy from the straits which bear his name. The arms of Prince Henry are on the vellum covers; and to add to the attraction of the volume, a folio sheet is inserted, in the autograph of the author, containing 'Motives, addressed to Prince Henry, for ordering a project for the discoverie of the North Pole terrestrial, the Straights of Anian, into the South Seas and Coasts thereof."—"All those kingdoms [he says] are most complete, glorious, and doe best flourishe, in abundance, whereunto trade and traffique is performed." After reciting the "motives," he proceeds to project a joint-stock company, the "Adventurers in which are to be selected; of Noble Birth descended; Grette in High Offices; and worthy deserving; of at the least of Two Thousand Pounds yearly Revenue," with Privileges at the discreete wisdom of the High Person paramount, Henrie Prince of Wales,"—to whom he observes, "in love and dutie, I have left with Mr. Wright in your Highnesses librarie att St. James' a hand globe terrestrial, for demonstration of these." No date is attached; but it may be inferred that "the motives" were of some force in inducing the Prince to frame on the 5th of April, 1612, the Orders and Instructions for the Voyage undertaken by Sir Thomas Button, the result of which he unfortunately did not live to see. It deserves to be mentioned, that Davis expresses a strong wish that King James should institute some order of civil merit,—so early was this distinction coveted by men of merit like John Davis. The volume was bought by the American agent, Mr. Stevens, for 21*l*.

The New York papers announce as "a literary event" of moment the twelve days' sale of "the celebrated Jarvis library." The collection consists, it is said, of ten thousand volumes; which the late Mr. Rodd would have called, aptly enough, "a handful of books,"—but our American brethren are somewhat surprised at its extent—as we must own we ourselves are at the expression of such surprise, for a library of ten thousand volumes is rather a common sight in this country. The collection contains about five hundred volumes with the book-plate, and occasionally the name, of Gibbon the historian inscribed on a fly-leaf in his own handwriting. The library of Gibbon was, if we remember rightly, sold in this country by Mr. Evans; but we were not aware that so large a portion of that library as five hundred volumes had been secured by any one person and kept intact. Some of Gibbon's books would realize larger prices in England than they brought on the former occasion,—and even then they were thought to sell beyond their intrinsic value.

The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have, it is said, refused to hear any further application or remonstrance on the subject of throwing open the inclosure at the west front of their Cathedral until measures shall have been taken by the City to enlarge the approaches.

On the subject of the Nineveh Discoveries "A visitor to the British Museum and constant reader of the *Athenæum*" writes to us as follows.—"It appears somewhat remarkable that the interesting remains of Assyrian sculpture now in the British Museum have not suggested to some of your antiquarian readers the formation of a Society for carrying on more extensively the excavations at Nineveh hitherto so successfully conducted by Mr. Layard. A Society on the principle of the Archæological or other institution of the kind might be formed, with an annual subscription of two guineas from each member,—the funds so raised to be applied in the manner stated. All relics worth transporting to this country to be sent to the British Museum on condition that the Trustees become subscribers to a certain extent; and the Society to publish, and present to each subscriber, a description of the objects of antiquity discovered—with drawings illustrative of the same. A scheme like this seems to me perfectly feasible; and I have no doubt it would be patronized by all lovers of antiquarian research,—as well as by members of religious and other Societies. It would obviate the necessity of applications to Government for grants of money, and be the means of further elucidating many subjects of interest connected with Biblical and early history."

Prince Albert, we are informed, has consented to assume the Patronage of the Royal Polytechnic Institution:—and under the protection of no other honorary name could its interests be so appropriately placed.

The Cambridge dons are about as slow as its under-graduates are fast. Thirty-three months ago, under strong pressure from without, a Syndicate was named to consider and revise the statutes of the University:—the Syndics have at last made their report! The new reform—the self-reform of which their friends vaunted so loudly—is announced, and we are mistaken if it will satisfy any class of men in this country except its authors. It leaves untouched all the old radical abuses. It says not a word about tests and subscriptions—about the exclusion of Dissenters and others—about the character of the studies pursued in the University, or a better regulation for the distribution of collegiate honours—about the exaction of money from the students for imaginary residence, and fees on account of tuition which is notoriously not given—about the relation of the separate colleges to the University. These reforms are left for bolder minds to undertake. Such changes as are really made are for the better, no doubt,—but the very spirit of timidity seems to have presided over them. The first change on the list refers to Residence—and it reduces the terms from ten to nine—strikes about two months from the three and a half years. Here a sweeping measure was, and is, required. The degree is given as the seal of scholarship: that is its pretension before the world, and should be its meaning at Cambridge. But by present rules it is given as the seal of so many dinners and so much sleep. Many men are ready for a University examination when they go to college,—others could prepare themselves in a few months. What reason is there for not passing such men when they are ready? Why should the ripe mind be kept back for a fixed period at all? With respect to the latitude with which it has been customary hitherto to interpret the statutes when granting titular, mandate, and honorary degrees, the Syndics have resolved to define a little more strictly and narrowly the meaning of the word "nobleman." In future, degrees will be granted as a matter of course, and in virtue of "their nobility," only "to actual dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts, and barons, to their sons, and to those who in due course will become noblemen." Surely, however, this ancient usage—conceived in the spirit of a time long gone by—might be abolished altogether:—and were the University degree made really to represent something beyond the fact of so much mutton consumed,—were it a real scholastic and literary distinction,—the men in whose favour it is now supposed to act would probably be the first to seek its suppression. Many young noblemen would spurn a regulation which supposed—and supposes—them incapable of winning honours in open competition.

Mr. Henry Lawton of Bath has made a proposal to the people of Nottingham with a view to the establishment of a midland observatory in that town. On condition that the town council or any other local body will provide a house and garden and secure a salary of 200*l*. a-year for a resident astronomer, he offers to transfer to trustees appointed on their behalf the whole of his valuable collection of astronomical, optical, and meteorological apparatus. The collection, it is said, cost its munificent owner upwards of 10,000*l*. The town council refrains from voting the requisite funds on the ground that such a vote is not within its functions. But a public subscription is on foot for the object,—and it is expected that enough money will be raised by this means to secure so important an acquisition for the town. Mr. Lawton himself has offered a thousand guineas towards this fund.

Lines of steam ships will soon traverse all the great oceans of the earth. The German Ocean was scarcely bridged by steam before men began to speculate on the possibility of a similar feat on the Atlantic. That accomplished,—the Indian Ocean next occupied attention. Presto!—and Plymouth, Lisbon, Liberia, the Cape, Bengal and Sydney are joined together. There now remains only the wide waste of the Pacific:—and we understand that Government is already seriously engaged in preparations for future experiments in the steam navigation of that, the largest ocean in the world. Two vessels, the Harold and the Arrow, are under equipment as an expedition to the Southern Pacific—their object being a search in that region for coal stations and an appropriate place for a new penal settlement. Capt. Denham, it is said, will command this expedition.

A descriptive Catalogue Raisonné of the late Cardinal Mezzofanti's Library has, we are informed, been just published in Rome. It is in Latin, divided into forty-five sections,—and embracing works written in upwards of four hundred different languages, idioms, or dialects.

English readers seldom fail to hear of the suppressions, restrictions, or persecutions of the press in France and in Germany:—similar events in Spain are seldom referred to in our newspapers:—Madrid being further off and its journals less known than those of Paris and Berlin. It would be a mistake, however, to suppose that because the war of that government on opinion is not recorded here, it is not made. A Madrid journal, the *Epoca*, gives its readers a summary of the prosecutions instituted against the press of the capital by the present cabinet,—the men who ousted Narvaez, and make a pretence of a sort of liberal principles. According to this authority, the *Europa* has been suppressed and fined 30,000 reals; the *Mundo Nuevo*, the *Murga*, and the *Tribuna del Pueblo* have been repeatedly seized, fined, and have ceased to appear; the *Nacion* has been seized eleven times, fined 20,000 reals, and has an editor in prison; the *Heraldo* has been seized ten times, is printed under the surveillance of the police, and has one of its editors in prison; the *Constitucional* has been seized three times, and fined 20,000 reals; the *Epoca* itself has been seized seven times; the *Observador*, the *Catolico*, and the *Novedades* have also been seized several times. Yet these ministers have not yet completed their first year of power!—For the present, France and Austria may be considered as not having a press:—with this slight difference between the two countries, that while the dominant power in Paris is described as being anxious to buy, cajole, or compel support from the few papers that remain, the men who rule in Vienna profess to despise the "fourth estate" altogether. An amusing instance of this occurred a few days ago. The *Soldaten Freund*, a journal circulating chiefly in the lower ranks of the army, gave one morning a rapturous account of the Emperor's reception by the people during his recent visit to Galicia. A messenger arrived during the day to summon the editor to the residence of the Commandant-general. He ran off, expecting thanks—perhaps more substantial rewards—for his eloquent loyalty; but, to his astonishment, the general gave him a severe reprimand for meddling with such high matters. "The Emperor," he said, "does not need to have his acts praised by writers in newspapers."

We throw into a single paragraph a few miscellaneous notes on London improvements. The drainage of the Regent's Park, commenced in the early part of the winter, is progressing satisfactorily.—The report of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests just published states that the Commissioners have sold a piece of ground from Charlotte Street to Long Acre as a site for baths and washhouses for

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St. Giles's and St. George's parishes. The parishes have paid 2,650*l.* for the site.—A sum of 30,000*l.* has been appropriated by the Commissioners towards the expense of forming and completing a line of street between Southwark and Westminster Bridge.—The Commissioners have lent 30,000*l.* to the Westminster Improvement Commissioners to enable them to complete and open the new street from Westminster Abbey to Pimlico.—The property purchased by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests to enable them to open a new street from the London Docks to Spitalfields Church amounted to 108,214*l.*, which has been raised by a duty of 1*d.* per ton on coals imported into the city of London.—The cost of taking down, removing, and reinstating the marble arch has been little short of 11,000*l.*—A company, we notice, has been formed for the purpose of obtaining from Parliament authority to construct a new and commodious bridge over the Thames, connecting Fulham and Putney, in lieu of the present structure, which is dangerous to passengers, insufficient for ordinary traffic, and an unsightly as well as a perilous obstruction to the river navigation. The proposed bridge is to be made of wrought and cast iron, spanning the river with five arches of 133 feet, each arch rising 20 feet above the level at high water.

NOW OPEN.—SKETCHES and DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Landseer, R.A., Hart, R.A., Creswick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Cattermole, John Lewis, Frith, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lance, Duncan, Dodgson, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec.
Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

PANORAMA OF NIMROUD, NINEVEH.—BURFORD'S PANORAMA, Leicester-square.—JUST OPENED the above extraordinary View, including the recent Excavations, the Temple-Palaces and wonderful Relics of Antiquity discovered by A. H. Layard, Esq.; embracing also the Rivers Tigris and Zab, the Chaldean or Nestorian, and the Kurdish Mountains and surrounding scenery of the deepest and most intense interest.—The VIEWS of NIAGARA, JERUSALEM, and the LAKE of LUCERNE, are also NOW OPEN.—Admission 1s. each Circle, or 2s. 6d. to the three. Schools half-price. Open from 10 till dusk.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.
ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—LECTURE by GEORGE BARKER, Esq., on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, commencing with his celebrated entertainment "AN ENGLISH CHRISTMAS," every Evening for a fortnight, except Saturday, at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq.—on WARD'S NEW SUBMARINE LAMP.—LECTURE by Dr. Bachhoffner on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION.—NUMEROUS PRIZE MODELS, WORKS of ART, &c. from the Great Exhibition will be explained by Mr. Crispe.—OPTICAL EFFECTS in DISSOLVING VIEWS, MICROSCOPE, CHROMATROPE, &c.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven to Five, and every evening, except Saturday, from Seven till half-past Ten.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

Geographical.—*Dec.* 8.—The President, Sir R. I. Murchison, in the chair.—Prof. H. Abich, R. Cust, Esq., H. Bois, Esq., and Lieut. E. M. Leycester, R.N., were elected Fellows.

The papers read were, 'Letter from Capt. W. Penny on the missing Arctic Expedition under the command of Sir John Franklin.' The following are extracts.—"On the 25th of August, 1850, having joined Captain Ommanney on the west side of Wellington Channel, and seen the traces found by him of the missing ships, I considered it my proper course to return to the eastern shore of the channel, with the view of examining those parts more closely than had been done before. The result of my return was most satisfactory; for not until then were the winter quarters of the missing ships discovered, and what is of still more importance in my estimation as regards the route of the missing ships, a watch-tent, set up evidently for watching every move of the ice in Wellington Channel. We also saw the ruts of sledges going and returning from making observations upon the channel; and in the tent we found a small piece of paper with the words, 'to be called,' the other part of which must have been torn off,—evidently showing that a regular watch had been kept on the 5th of September, 1850, from the top of Cape Spencer, a height of at least 730 feet. Open water was observed beyond the fixed ice in the channel. The strong easterly gales which we experienced previous to the above date had counteracted the prevailing current from the westward, and had driven the ice through Queen Victoria Channel into the Arctic Basin. On the 7th of September a strong northerly gale brought away 15 miles of ice down Wellington Channel, leaving only about 15 miles of ice between the two seas. Having commenced our travelling on the 13th of April, 1851, I came upon water and decayed ice on the 15th of May, in the channel between Cornwallis Land and Bailie Hamilton Island, obliging me to return by the east of the said island; and then to the north we gained Point Island, and then to the north we gained Point Surprise, in lat. 76° 2′, long. 95° 55′. The water reached the point at my feet, and extended 25 miles west; the sky indicated water to the north, round Dundas Island. The moment I stood upon Point Surprise, with a full view to the west, I exclaimed, 'Through this channel Sir John Franklin has gone in clear water. Oh! for a boat.' With this conviction on my mind, I returned with the determination to use every exertion to get a boat up to this water. On the 29th of the same month, Messrs. Goodsir and Marshall, advancing with their party along the shore of Cornwallis Land, were forced to return for water, with thirty days' provisions upon their sledges. Again, on the 31st of May, Capt. Stewart having advanced as far as Cape Beecher, by the east side of the channel, and along Albert Land, came to water,—and, from a height of 700 feet, found nothing but open sailing ice as far as the eye could reach to the west and north-west. On the 6th of June, a boat was fully equipped, and a journey commenced for Victoria Channel, some of the party having only returned thirty-four hours from a journey of thirty-one days. On the 17th of the same month, the boat was launched into the water in long. 96° W., and continued to contend for thirty-three days with adverse winds and rapid tides, which brought the drifting ice in such quantities to the eastward as to block up the various channels between the islands, leaving an open sea beyond, seen from the top of Baillie Hamilton's Island. My utmost exertions were so hampered that only 310 miles of island coast were examined by the boat party; but had a strong easterly wind prevailed for only a short time, so as to counteract the effects of the westerly current, what might not have been done with even the small boat! It is my conviction that the tide flows from the north-west in Victoria Channel, although there is a regular rise and fall of four feet; still in mid-channel the current seemed to run the greater part of the twelve hours to the eastward, which, I have no doubt, was greatly influenced by the strong N.W. and W.N.W. winds which prevailed for a whole month, but, amongst islands and narrow channels, one would require longer time for making observations to enable him to speak with certainty on this subject. In Davis's Straits and Baffin's Bay the tide flows from the south; in Lancaster Sound it flows from the east. With the knowledge we have acquired by our late search, who can now doubt the route Sir John Franklin has pursued? A watch sent to observe every move in the Strait, and the evident signs of a hasty departure, amount in my mind to a conviction that he had passed in open water through Wellington Channel and along Prince Albert's Land, which I am strongly of opinion extends 500 miles N.W., and until that distance is reached, no further traces will be discovered."

'Proposal for a Museum of Mankind,' by G. Catlin, Esq.—His plan had for its object to perpetuate the looks, customs, history, and manufactures of all the declining and vanishing races of man,—and he still believed that his collection would eventually form the basis of such an institution. He agreed with all the world as to the great interest and value of their noble collections of beasts and birds, reptiles, fossils, minerals, fishes, insects, and plants, all of which could be gathered hundreds of years hence, as well as at the present time; and he believed that most of the reasoning world who would give the subject a moment's thought, would agree with him that there was one museum yet to be made, equal, if not transcending in interest and value all others yet designed, and which required to be made soon or it would be for ever lost—a museum containing the resemblances, manufactures, crania, history, and records of all the remnants of the native races of our fellow-men. He believed that Great Britain had more than thirty colonies in different parts of the globe, in all of which the numbers of civilized men were rapidly increasing, and the native tribes as fast wasting away; that the march of civilization was everywhere, as it was in America, the march of extermination, and that of their own species. For the occupation of a new country the first enemy that must fall was man, and his like could not be replaced from any other part of the globe. Their war was not with the beasts or the birds. The grisly bear, the lion, and the tiger were allowed to live; their weapons were seldom employed against them. They did not give them whisky and rum, the small-pox, nor the bayonet; they were allowed to live upon their own ground, and yet their skins were of great value and interest in our museums. But to complete a title—man, their fellow man—the noblest work of God—with thoughts, sentiments, and sympathies like their own—must be struck down and extinguished, dying on his own soil, often unchronicled and unknown, save to the ruthless hands that had slain him, and would bury his history with his body in oblivion, when not even his skin had a place assigned it amongst those of the beasts and birds of his country. To attain his objects, he proposed to fit out a steamer to procure well-selected specimens of the North, South, and Central American races, with which, and the several other parties from the opposite parts of the globe, now to be obtained in England, and the manufactures of those races, and the American-Indian collection, he would consider the museum established; and after a rapid visit to the seaport towns of England, Scotland, and Ireland, he proposed to visit St. Petersburgh and other towns on the Baltic, bringing back the natives and their manufactures from the north of Russia and Asia; giving a new interest thereby to the collection on its second visit to the English towns, and to its tour up the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, or to the Atlantic cities of the United States, to whichever its destination might first be fixed. Some other details were given; and he concluded by stating that the extraordinary facilities thus afforded of concentrating together in the most sudden and rapid manner the native races from different parts of the globe, with all their peculiar native looks, their ingenious manufactures and handicraft, easily gathered, and thus enhanced in interest and value, would afford the ethnologist and the physiologist, not only of a town or a city, but of the various cities of the world, the rarest opportunity for the study of native man and his curious works, whilst this little floating community of native tribes would become an Aborigines school, from which the English language, the Christian religion, and the civilized arts would emanate and be carried and taught amongst the heathen races to the remotest quarters of the globe.

'Sketch of the Friendly Islands, with an Account of the Visit of H.M.S. the Meander, Capt. the Hon. H. Keppel, to Tongatabu,' by Mr. O. W. Brierly.—The paper was illustrated by sketches of the arrival of the Royal fleet of double canoes at the anchorage Tongatabu; view of the entrance to the anchorage at Nukualofa, with her Majesty's ship Meander running through the narrow passage between the islets; portrait of King George, of the Friendly Islands (life size), from a sketch made at a Kava party; portrait of a Feejee chief (life size); view of one of the entrances to the Pah-at-Bea, where Capt. Croker, of her Majesty's ship Favourite, was killed in 1840; an outline chart of Tongatabu, from a French survey at Tahiti; curiosities, models, &c.

Geological.—*Dec.* 17.—D. Sharpe, Esq., in the chair. F. Hindmarsh, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—The following papers were communicated.—'On the Quader-formation of Germany,' by Dr. H. B. Geinitz. From some late researches in the Hartz, Prof. Geinitz has been enabled to make further additions to his knowledge of the cretaceous rocks of that district, and finds that they may be arranged in the following series:—Upper Chalk,

Lower Chalk, Tourtia, and Neocomian.—'On the causes of the Changes of Climate in different geological periods,' by W. Hopkins, Esq.

Asiatic.—*Dec.* 13.—Sir G .T. Staunton in the chair.—R. N. Cust, Esq., T. Ellis, Esq., the Rev. G. Frost, J. W. Pycroft, Esq., the Rev. C. Pritchard, and C. Rieu, Esq., were elected Members.—The Secretary read a paper by T. T. Meadows, Esq., Translator to H.B.M. Consulate in China, descriptive of the execution of thirty-four rebels, or bandits, which took place in Canton, on the 30th of July last. After a description of the place of execution, which was secured by a strongly guarded door,—and after stating that more than 400 human beings have been put to death in the same place within the past eight months,—Mr. Meadows states that he entered the place accompanied by two English residents at Canton, and found there a few of the lower officials. The only preparation visible was a cross, fixed up for the infliction of the highest legal punishment practised in China—cutting up alive. There was a fire of fragrant sandal-wood burning before the shed where the Mandarins sit to superintend the executions, in order to conceal the horrid stench arising from the decomposed heads remaining there. After waiting a considerable time, all the criminals were introduced, most of them walking to their places, but many carried in baskets, and tumbled out on the spot appointed for them, where they lay powerless, either from excess of fear or from treatment inflicted during trial and imprisonment. A man stood behind each criminal, and placed him in a kneeling position, with his face towards the ground, holding him in this position by grasping his hands, which were bound behind his back. In case of resistance, which happens very rarely, the criminal's *queue* is held by a second assistant, and dragged forward by force, so as to keep the neck extended. When all tho criminals were placed in the required positions, the executioner seized a sabre with both hands, and proceeded to his work. In the present instance, the man was a mild looking soldier selected from the ranks of the army. The sword was a common sabre of three feet in length; and one of those employed on the occasion was laid on the Society's table. It appears that there is no official weapon required; for the officers of the army, anxious to "flesh their swords," send them for the purpose to the executioner, who has thus a sufficient supply for his most extensive operations. The number decapitated on the occasion described was thirty-three; and the executioner took up a fresh sword as soon as he felt the edge of the one employed becoming dull, which was usually the case after cutting off two or three heads. When all was ready, the man stood firm, with his legs somewhat apart. On hearing the word "*pan*" pronounced by the officer superintending, and after a sharp order to the criminal, "Don't move!" he raised his sword straight up, and brought it rapidly down with the full strength of both arms, giving additional force to the blow by dropping his body perpendicularly to a sitting posture. The horrid task was soon done; after cutting off the head of one victim, the man threw himself, by a bound, into position by the side of the next; and in somewhat less than three minutes, the whole thirty-three were headless,—the head, in every case but the first, being completely severed at one blow. In three or four cases, where the criminals retained their full strength, the bodies, after decapitation, rose quite upright; and Mr. Meadows is satisfied that unless restrained by the man behind they would have sprung into the air. When this part of the tragedy was over, the more horrible work of slow death was carried into effect upon the remaining criminal, who was bound to the cross mentioned above. He was a strongly-built man, apparently forty years old, who had escaped in the first instance, but who had voluntarily surrendered himself to certain death, in order to save from torture his wife and family who had been seized by the Chinese government with the cruel policy usual on such occasions. In this instance, the flesh was cut from the forehead, breast, and extremities of the sufferer with a short knife, which was on the table before the Meeting; the body was immediately taken from the cross, and the head cut off. The duration of the punishment was about four or five minutes. The bodies were then packed up in coffins and carried away.—In conversation, it was remarked, that the pressing to death, the disgusting details of our capital punishment for treason, and the burning of women only a century ago in our island, must lead us not to be too hasty in condemning the Chinese as utterly barbarous in the punishment now described; which will not bear the smallest comparison with the cruelties exercised on Damien in Paris less than a century ago, which is said to have been witnessed by thousands of spectators, including several ladies of rank.—A more significant proof of a low state of feeling among the Chinese is shown in the fact, that a man came coolly in to dip rushes into the blood of the decapitated criminals, to be used as a medicine; and that, on a former visit the writer had found human bodies lying in the place, with pigs feeding in the pools of blood around, while a woman was affectionately feeding a child within a few yards, —both staring with much interest at the strange foreigner, but utterly regardless of the disgusting exhibition before their eyes!

Society of Antiquaries.—*Dec.* 11.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, V.P. and Director, in the chair.—Sir B. Outram presented a number of rubbings and tracings which the late Dr. Bromett had made in different parts of Italy, especially in Rome. Some were highly curious, and were made from mosaics and stone inscriptions. Among the latter was the slab in the English Chapel at Rome put up to Cardinal Brembridge, Archbishop of York, who was murdered there; but on the stone it was merely said "*obiit* 1514," without the slightest mention of the way in which he came by his death. —A paper was read 'On the Discovery of Roman Remains at Boxmoor.' The fact is new, but the relics themselves offered no novelty. They were obtained chiefly from the bottom of an ancient well, and included coins of Nero.—Mr. Chappell, from a parish in Suffolk, of which his brother is the incumbent, produced a copy of the "solemn league and covenant," as subscribed there in 1643. It was mentioned that two other copies of the same instrument subscribed by parishioners were in existence—one of them at Newhaven, in Sussex.

Dec. 18.—Sir R. H. Inglis, V.P., in the chair. —Mr. Campkin laid before the Society a portrait of Abraham Cowley by Faithorne, on the back of which some verses relating to the poet, his patron, and the Duke of Buckingham were written. There was little merit in the lines; but they were accompanied by a letter from Mr. Campkin explanatory of them, and somewhat more disparaging of Cowley's works than was deserved. It was his misfortune not to be superior to the literary vices of his age, especially in early life; and his later and better works are not from their subjects of an attractive character, though Gray knew their value and imitated them.—Some Anglo-Saxon remains were placed upon the table by the Hon. R. C. Neville, lately disinterred by him in Cambridgeshire. They consisted very much of personal ornaments in bronze, but with thick gilding upon many of them, and these had not been at all corroded by the lapse of ten or twelve centuries. They had nearly all been met with in a place of early sepulture at Wilbraham; and two of the objects occasioned a good deal of remark, and obviously required further illustration. They were small wooden buckets, about six inches deep by as many broad, composed of ten or twelve staves each, hooped and mounted in bronze and with a bronze handle over the top: the wood, as had been ascertained by Mr. Brown, keeper of the botanical department of the British Museum, was yew, and it was in a singular state of preservation. Mr. Neville gave it as his opinion, that they had been used as drinking cups, and that they had been buried with the dead as peculiarly dear to the person when living. It was mentioned that a similar, but less perfect, specimen had been presented to the British Museum; but it did not seem that the officers there had been able to throw any light upon its use, or on the reason why it had been placed with the body. Many skeletons had been found at the same time remarkable for the perfectness of their teeth, even when worn with age; for the entireness of the bones, without injury or fracture; and for the complete developement of the skull, as if belonging to a people considerably advanced in civilization:—nevertheless, it was quite certain that all these remains were of a period long anterior to the Norman Conquest. Mr. Neville promised to produce other relics of larger dimensions (and we hope some of the skulls) in the middle of January: they are at present deposited in his museum at Audley End.—An important historical paper by Mr. Roberts was read: it related to the very curious question of the transportation and exportation of perhaps a thousand persons, gentry and labourers, who were engaged in Monmouth's Rebellion. It was most noticeable as containing a strong confirmation of Mr. Hepworth Dixon's discovery, that it was not William Penn, but George Penne, who was disgracefully concerned in extorting money from "the Virgins of Taunton" who worked the colours for the Duke of Monmouth. Mr. Roberts also entered into the history of two persons of the names of Pinney and Coade, who, among eight hundred others, had been carried to the West Indies to work on Sugar Plantations of Jamaica. The first, being a gentleman, was bought off by his brother for 65*l.*—but the last was obliged to serve out the period of his exile. It was mentioned in the room that Mr. Macaulay had himself not long since published Coade's narrative of his life and sufferings. One of the most amusing parts of Mr. Roberts's communication related to the tricks of the courtiers of James the Second and his Queen to obtain assignments of prisoners in order that they might make a profit of them by sale or otherwise. The Queen's favourites, and Mr. George Penne, were peculiarly successful;—and it was the latter who obtained the ransom of Mr. Pinney and some others. It appeared, however, that William Penn had made interest to procure some of the labourers for his new estate, but we do not think that the result of his application was stated. The fact is, that he had twenty or thirty given to him, and they settled in Pennsylvania.

Statistical.—*Dec.* 15.—Lieut. W. H. Sykes, V.P., in the chair.—The Rev. E. W. Edgell read an abstract of a tabular statement by the Rev. Thomas Bliss 'On the Statistics of Places of Worship in England and Wales.'—Mr. Levi read a paper 'On the Comparative Statistics of the World, and on an International Code of Commerce.' The object was, to suggest means of promoting the extension of knowledge of the resources of countries, bringing to light the nature and properties of physical substances, and the statistics of the quantities produced; and also to facilitate mutual exchanges. It showed the difficulty of obtaining statistical accounts from any number of countries of equal dates, on account of the various modes and terms in which statistics are collected. It detailed the nature of a comprehensive statistical chart which the author had compiled, and purposed should be an annual statement of the statistics of the world, for which he asked the co-operation and countenance of the Society:—the most striking results of which appeared in the following totals:—in finances, Great Britain is 3,000,000*l.* revenue above expenditure; Austria, 7,000,000*l.* expenditure above revenue; France, 2,000,000*l.* expenditure above revenue. The debt of Great Britain stands highest. The total estimated produce of grain of the countries exhibited in the chart was 392,750,000 quarters. From a calculation of the produce and consumption of wheat in Great Britain, there appeared a want of importation of 4,000,000 quarters of grain yearly. The average importation for the last five years was shown to be 3,907,997 quarters; and for the last ten years, 2,891,806 quarters. The production of iron in Great Britain was given at 1,800,000 tons manufactured, out of a total of 3,000,000 tons; and of coals, 38,000,000 tons out of a total of 64,000,000 tons. The total annual value of the precious metals seemed to be about 29,000,000*l.* The total of imports and exports to and from the several countries, 594,650,000*l.*; of which, 321,750,000*l.* form the imports and 272,900,000*l.* the exports. Of the

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exports of Great Britain, 20 per cent. are sent to America; 11 per cent. to the East Indies; 10 per cent. to the Hanseatic Towns; 5 per cent. to Holland; and 4½ to the North American Colonies. The total mercantile marine of the world was shown to be 65,434 vessels, of 9,957,585 tons, of which 34,090, of 4,144,115 tons, belonged to Great Britain, and 3,535,251 to the United States; or in the proportion respectively of 41 and 35 per cent. of the tonnage. The total navigation of merchant vessels consisted of 233,470 vessels, of 46,330,823 tons, of which were entered at various ports 118,871 vessels of 23,569,392 tons, and cleared 114,599 vessels, of 22,761,431 tons. Of this, Great Britain participated in 6,113,696 entered and 5,906,978 tons cleared; and America in 4,328,639 entered, and 4,361,002, tons cleared; or in the proportion respectively of 12½ and 8½ per cent. There were shown to be open for public traffic 25,398 miles of railway, at a cost of 448,750,000*l.* The relative per-centage per mile in Great Britain was 35,000*l.*; in America, 6,500*l.*; in Germany, 12,000*l.*; in France, 26,000*l.*—Mr. Levi then touched on an international code of commerce, and exhibited the injurious effects of so many systems of Laws; and gave a statistical summary of his work on 'Commercial Law of the World,' in which there are 16,750 articles, comprising the codes and laws of commerce of all mercantile countries. The author having attempted in the work to codify the laws of Great Britain, collected 2,315 articles of commerce, and statute law, and the subject of merchants, partnerships of joint stock companies, principal and agent, contracts, bills of exchange, and insurance,—the law of shipping and bankruptcy being in course of publication.—The author informed the Society of a Convention to be held in Brussels next autumn of the statists of Europe and America,—and expressed a hope that the Society would send a deputation to promote the better and more uniform mode of collecting statistics, and also an international code of commerce.

Philological.—*Dec.* 12.—Prof. Key read a paper 'On the Etymology of certain Latin Words.' Having formerly shown that in the words *verg-ere*, *merg-ere*, *terg-ere*, and *sparg-ere*, the *g* was not a part of the ultimate stem, he now showed that *par-cere* (compared with our *spare*) and *torque-re*, stood in a similar position. As to *torquere*, the perf. *tor-si*, and part. *tor-tus;* the derivative substantives, *tor-men* (pl. *tormina*), *tor-mentum*, *tor-tor*, *tor-tura*, &c.; the adj. *tortivus* and *torticius;* the subst. *tor-culum* (compare *vehi-culum* and *fer-culum*); *tor-nus*, a lathe, and *ter-edo*, all implied a simple verb *tor-*, or *ter-*, rather than the fuller *torque-*. The Greek seemed to put the matter beyond doubt, τορ-νος, a lathe, was admitted to be derived from τειρ-ω, the primary meaning of which was that of *turning*; compare τορ-υνη, "a stirrer or ladle;" τορ-μος, "the socket on which a door turns," or "a turning post (in a race-course);" τορ-ος "piercing" (from the turning of a centre-bit); τερ-μα, "the turning point in the race-course." The Latin *terminus*, and the old neuter "*termen*," were akin to the Greek τερ-μα,—both languages possessing the same root. As *r* so readily changes with *l*, τελ-ος was no doubt from the base τερ: to derive it from τελεω was to reverse the stream of etymology; besides, the Homeric future, τελεσ-σω, and the tenses ε-τελεσ-θην, and τε-τελεσ-μαι, showed that τελεω was a corruption of τελεσ-ω. With the Latin *torq-* of *torqueo*, our verb *thr-ow* was identical: the change of the Latin *t* into our *th* being a law; and of *q* or any guttural into our *ow* being common; both *torqueo* and *throw* shared, too, the double meaning of twisting and hurling—to throw silk and to throw a spear. Other words from the same root were *ter-e-bra* and τερ-ε-τρον, a gimlet; the old subst. *tor-es*=*torques* (Charisius); perhaps *tur-ma*, a troop of cavalry—(the number who wheeled round together); the adj. *tor-vus;* the subst. *tor-us*, primarily "a strand of a rope" (Cato, § 135, Columel. xi. 3), from the notion of twisting, like our own *thread*, Germ. "*draht*," from *dreh-en*, to turn. The very verb *tero* is used of turning in a lathe; and thus we see how little ground scholars have for referring so many of its children to a Greek parentage. Our verbs *thr-ill* and *drill* have the same root as *throw*, with which *turn* is related, as *morrow* and *morn* are. The Greek τρεπ-ω shows us the root τερ, with a new suffix ιπ (if indeed ιπ do not represent the *q* of *torqueo*, as εποµαι and *sequor*),—hence we have τρυπη, and the verb τρυπαω—bore, pierce. Of the forms which disguise themselves by adding an initial *s*, must be mentioned our verb *stir*, the Latin *con-sterna-re*, the primitive meaning of which is "to stir up to violent action," Gr. στρεφω, and its deriv. στροβος, whirling, or a top; στριβλος, twisted. If *terere*, to rub, is related to our root *ter*, yet the notion of *turning* is claimed as the primary one. He dealt also with the noun *col-or* which is commonly left, without etymological explanation. Comparing it with the Greek χρως, χρωτος, and χρωμα, we find that they both have as meanings, successively, "skin," "colour of the skin or complexion," "colour generally" (see Forcellini's quotations). *Col-*, and χρ-, it is believed are the same base; the letter-change is one that often occurs, as καλυπτω, κρυπτω; *celeber*, *creber;* *scru-tari*, σκαλιειν; *crus*, σκιλος, &c. An *s* being so often prefixed, we look to some such word as the Greek σκυλλειν, to flay or skin, as the parent verb;—from this, too, come σκυλος, a hide; σκυλοδεψης, a tanner of hides; κολεος, a scabbard; *culeus*, a large leathern sack; *cor-ium*, and the adj. *scorteus*—*scortum* Varro assures us was used in the old language for "leather," and of this *scrotum* is only a variety.—The letter *l* lying between *r* and *n* in the natural series of liquids, was interchangeable with *n* as well as *r*. Hence we have the diminutive επι-σκυνιον, the skin above the eyes, or over the brow, and so our word *skin*. The *l* also interchanged with *t*, and σκυτ-ος, "a skin or hide" is only a dialectic variety of σκυλ-ος, and *scutum* and *cutis* also belong to the family. The German *Haut* and our *hide* are the same as *cutis*. As σκυλον and *spolium* are identical both in meaning and form, so also the Latin *pellis*, Germ. *pelz*, and our *fell* (in "fellmonger") must be claimed for this same root. It must always be remembered, that where there is identity of meaning, any reasonable letter-change must be allowed in tracing the connexion of words.

Institution of Civil Engineers.—*Dec.* 16.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Alluvial Formations, and the Local Changes, of the South-Eastern Coast of England. First Section, from the River Thames to Beachy Head,' by Mr. J. B. Redman. The paper stated, that the passage of shingle along the English coast, due, as was generally believed, to the action of waves alone, took on the south coast a course from west to east, and on the east coast, from north to south; during certain winds the shingle was heaped up coincident with their direction, and repeated withdrawals and renewals (the latter being the most frequent,) caused a leeward movement of the material, forming it, at the same time, into a series of triangles, of which the shore was the base. If any natural or artificial projection intercepted this motion, an accumulation, which would increase and be held in check according to the state of the wind, took place up to a certain point, or until the angle formed was filled up, when the shingle would pass round. With groynes, by far the most common action was, unless they were of great height, or short length, for the shingle, after accumulating on the weather side to the level of the top of the groyne, to pass over it, and then travel to leeward.—The degradation of the north shore of Kent, the local formation of shingle around the Isle of Thanet, by the wasting away of that chalky promontory, and the retention of large masses of alluvial matter in Pegwell Bay, were dwelt on. The main belt of shingle lying to the south of Deal, and extending from thence to Dover, with its early and present effects on the harbour at the latter place, were then described; also, the early condition of Folkestone Harbour, the large accumulation of shingle arrested to the westward of that haven, by the projection of a low-water pier, or groyne, at right angles to the harbour, and its effect upon the shore to the eastward, by retarding the progressive motion of the shingle in that direction. Further on, the curious formation at Dungeness Point, which it was reasonable to suppose did not at one time exist, as the parallel "fulls" of beach between Romney and Lydd, and extending from Winchelsea on the west to Hythe on the east, seemed formerly to have constituted the sea coast. The rectangular "full," running from the banks on the west side of Lydd towards the point, might have been created by an accumulation of shingle travelling from the westward, held in check by the outfall of the river Rother; the angle contained by this spit and the coast to the westward becoming gradually filled up with shingle, a silty deposit would take place on the east side, consequent on the gradual loss of Romney harbour, and the length of the spit would be increased by the parallel ridges of shingle periodically added to, and travelling round it. Numerous examples, extending over two centuries, showed that the average annual increase was six yards, reaching, over certain periods, an average of eight yards per annum,—the absolute increase since the time of Elizabeth being nearly one mile; and they proved conclusively, that the average progress seaward, producing a determinate aggregate elongation in a south-easterly direction, was much greater than had been generally assumed, though not regular, for the Ness had even been stationary during certain periods.—The gradual decadence of the ancient ports of Hythe, Romney, and Lydd, to leeward of this Point, were then alluded to; as also, the diversion of the outfall of the river Rother to Rye, once an estuary of the sea, and then forming Romney Harbour; the great increase of shingle to the westward; the early and abortive attempts to form a harbour at Hastings; the vast abrasion of the coast along Pevensey Bay, the harbour of which place had been lost by the elongation and extension of Langley Point. Between the origin of this Point and that of Dungeness, there was a remarkable similarity, both having originally had a tidal haven to the leeward, eventually choked up by the elongation of these spits across their outfalls; both had pools, or meres, arising from the land-locked waters, and in both cases the modern "fulls" of shingle could be plainly distinguished from the more ancient, by their forms and direction. The remarkable decrease of this point, about three-eighths of a mile, during the last century, appeared to arise principally from Old Brighton Beach no longer affording the necessary supply of shingle.—The early condition and present state of Cuckmere and Newhaven Harbours, the great degradation of the coast at Rottingdean, the sweeping away during Elizabeth's reign of the beach and town of Old Brighton, then standing on the site of the present Chain-pier, the materials from which formed the spits to the eastward, were described.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Institute of Actuaries, 7.—'On the Inequitable Operation of the Property and Income-Tax Enactment as regards Life and other Interests, and on the Principle by which direct Taxation should be regulated,' by Charles Jellicoe, Esq., Actuary to the Eagle Insurance Company.
Thurs. Zoological, 3.—General Business.

Scientific Gossip.—*Gutta Percha in Photography.*—At the meeting of the Photographic Club on Saturday last, Mr. Fry exhibited some charming pictures on glass, obtained by a combination of gutta percha and collodion. To the ordinary collodion—gun-cotton dissolved in ether—a small quantity of gutta percha is added, which readily dissolves. This is employed with the ordinary materials for the processes on glass,—the picture being developed by pyro-gallic acid. The extraordinary sensibility of this preparation may be inferred from the fact, that a positive copy from a glass negative has been obtained in five seconds by gas-light. The film formed on glass is far more adherent than the ordinary collodion or albumen:—we may, therefore, expect many valuable results from Mr. Fry's discovery.

The Photographic Club is exciting much interest amongst artists. At the last meeting—at Mr. Fry's house—Sir Charles Eastlake, Mr. Harding, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Mulready, Mr. Lane, Mr. Prescott Knight, Mr. George Cruikshank, and several other artists and men of science, were present.

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FINE ARTS

Life of Thomas Stothard, R.A., with Personal Reminiscences. By Mrs. Bray. With numerous Illustrations from his Works. Murray.

A MORE beautiful volume than this is not often issued. The "numerous illustrations" have been chosen with a sedulous respect for the reputation of the graceful artist whose life was in his works; and they have been rendered with most delicate care,—there being something in the nature of Stothard's genius which lent itself with more than ordinary adaptability to this form of presentment. Some of his happiest thoughts were devoted to uses no higher than those of Pocket-book adornment. Seasonable little groups to head the almanac of the Months—sketches of Fanny Burney's "sweet Queen" Charlotte among her children (how hideously attired!) or dancing at some birth-night ball—humorous vignettes in illustration of the novelists—had their importance and their beauty in his career, as well as those delicate and Raffaelesque fancies in arabesque—those garden-revels in which he almost equalled Watteau—those more simply severe sculptural designs, to be wrought out in marble or bronze, by which the name of Stothard will be best recollected. Thus, great diversity in the selection of illustrations was at once needful and appropriate. As we admire the result, our regret over time wasted and fancy frittered away almost vanishes It is too much the fancy now-a-days to conceive the artist a creature superior to small tasks and vulgar cares, who should devote his time and mind exclusively to those substantial and enduring poems which mark epochs and make shrines. Yet the great men of old were not thus selfish and impracticable in their sublimity. That they breathed a purer air and basked in a brighter sunshine of public taste than ours do is true:—but why was this? Because they helped to make that air pure, that sunshine gay, by throwing around them the wealth of their genius so prodigally that there was no corner so dark, no point so small, which some sparks of the true diamond could not lighten, where some grains of the real gold-dust might not be found.

The above observations, however,—naturally arising from the book before us, must not lead us too far from the more immediate matter in hand,—its literary value. This is not remarkable.—The life of the gentle and charming painter of 'The Canterbury Pilgrims' and 'The Bath of Diana' was unbroken by vicissitude; and its few events and marking traits are here treated by one who, however rich in sympathy, does not possess that fineness of discrimination and elegance of style which can make much out of little. Mrs. Bray's goodwill is great, and great have been the pains taken by her to set off her subject to what she conceives the best advantage; but her antiquarian tastes are too strong for her. She loses sight of proportion; and is more prosy than the general as distinguished from the special reader will approve. The book, in short, and the fame of Stothard, will live rather by virtue of his own works than by her aid.

Thomas Stothard, the only child of a Yorkshire inn-keeper, who removed to London, was born in Long Acre, on the 17th of August, 1755. His schooling, however, was something better than he might possibly have found in the street of the coachmakers.—

"Thomas being a delicate child, his father, anxious about his health, sent him, when five years old, to his uncle at York, who placed him 'under the care of an old lady, a good woman and a staunch presbyterian.' She lived in the little village of Acomb, near that city. 'There,' said Stothard, 'I grew stronger. She had two sons in the Temple, London, who sent her a present of some of the heads of Houbraken, framed and glazed; likewise an engraving of the blind Belisarius, by Strange; and some religious pictures from the unrivalled graver of the same artist. I looked often and earnestly at those productions; for the old lady admitted me freely into her room, and seemed pleased with my admiration of them. I gazed till a love of Art grew within me, and a desire to imitate what was on her walls. I got bits of paper and pencils, and made many attempts. I could see that my hand was improving, and I had sketched some things not amiss, when, at eight years old, I was removed to Stutton, the birth-place of my father. Before this, I should have mentioned that my father, pleased with my attempts, had sent me boxes of colours, which I knew so little how to use, that I applied to a house-painter for some mixed paint, which he gave me in an oyster-shell, and the first man I painted was in black.'"

When Thomas Stothard was in his thirteenth year, his father

"placed him at a genteel boarding school, at Ilford in Essex, where they professed to teach all the languages and accomplishments; there he was half starved, and there, he used to say, he learned to dance of the father of that wonder of pantomimic action—Grimaldi. Thomas had not been more than a year at Ilford, before his father died. The latter for some time had been in a precarious state of health, but, being fond of angling, he went, rather imprudently perhaps, on a fishing excursion to Colnbrook. He caught cold whilst engaged at that sport; and returning to the village, was seized with so sudden and violent an illness, that in two or three days he was a corpse. He was buried in the neighbouring church-yard of Langley in 1770, as the stone on his grave still attests. He left some provision for his widow, and twelve hundred pounds in the funds for his son."

Mrs. Stothard entertained the wise notion of letting her son work out his vocation,—though this was to be done in a manner no more dignified than that of binding him apprentice to a brocade-merchant's draftsman. While, however, his hand was throwing off the impossible peonies, the desperately-involved tendrils, and the quaint reed-stalks which his calling claimed from it, his fancy was already busy with such nobler subjects as Homer's 'Iliad' and Spenser's 'Faery Queen.' Strange to say, his master, the draftsman, so far from displaying any vulgar jealousy, encouraged the boy. His mistress begged for his best drawings to ornament her best parlour. These were seen by Mr. Harrison, the editor of the 'Novelist's Magazine,' who at once gave him a commission for book illustration. In this task, demanding alike facility and fertility, the best part of three years were passed.—

"It will surprise modern collectors, who now give almost any price that may be demanded for these early drawings, to learn how little he received for them. Stothard states, in some old memoranda of accounts found in his own hand-writing, that he made one hundred and forty-eight designs for the Novelist's Magazine, at one guinea each; that for twenty-six designs for the Poetical Magazine he had the same rate of payment; that for twenty theatrical frontispieces (and these were always portraits of the chief actors and actresses of the day) he received seven shillings each; and that for every separate border or vignette his remuneration was six shillings!"

It would be curious and instructive to compare such *honoraria* as these with those of the merry men who design for our weekly humourist, or of the remarkable artists who week by week arrange every event, whether home or foreign, past, present, or to come, for the *Illustrated London News*.—Perhaps the extreme modesty of Stothard's remuneration may have been not the least potent among the many causes which forced him upward from the nether world of caps and bonnets to the staircase at Burleigh—and the monument in York Minster.—From the Novelist's Library young Stothard was promoted to fill the ampler pages of Boydell's Shakspeare. In 1792 he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy;—and two years later he was made an Academician, having previously become a husband and a father. The subsequent forty years of his life were passed in a round of incessant labour, pleasant domestic intercourse, and partial recognition. Whereas at the earlier part of Stothard's career Wordsworth's intimate friend Sir George Beaumont professed himself unable to perceive the genius which seems expressly calculated to appeal to a lettered and poetical *dilettante* such as the baronet was,—in his later years the artist was duly appreciated and cordially cherished by Rogers. His works, compared with those of other flashier painters, fetched low prices: but the poet who can enter into Arcadia as intimately as he did has no reason to complain that he is not a manufacturer of Waterloo Banquets, Reform Congresses—or the like. In his own poetry there is an exceeding and eternal pleasure with which no stranger can intermeddle.

Little else is left us to do than to extract some passages and *dicta* possessing a special interest or throwing light on the placid character of the artist. By the following paragraph, we perceive that the Decameron painter was as close an observer of by-way nature as Albrecht Durer (with those wonderful botanical memoranda of his), or as the youngest of the Pre-Raphaelites who paints a picture for the sake of the chervil on the bank or the moss on

The rotted, old oak stump.

"Not, however, in butterflies only, but in everything Stothard was an indefatigable student of nature. He went nowhere without a sketch-book, and nothing struck his eye or his fancy but it was transferred to it. He recommended this practice to others, with the injunction, never to alter anything when absent from the object drawn: he said that, unless this rule was observed, all the spirit of the sketch would be lost. In his walks to Iver (about eighteen miles from London), whither he often went, accompanied by his son Alfred, to visit his aged aunt, Mrs. Hales, after they had passed Acton, he would say, 'Now let us leave the high road, and away to the fields and the hedges; we shall find there some beautiful plants, well worth seeking.' No sooner had they done so, than the sketch-book and colour-box were brought forth from his pocket; and many a wild plant, with its delicate formation of leaf and flower, was carefully copied on the spot. This was done with a fine pen filled with the tints required; the springing of the tendrils from the stem, and every elegant bend and turn of the leaves, or the drooping of a bell, was observed and depicted with the utmost beauty. When reminded by his son of the long way they had yet to go, and that they must absolutely proceed, or run the chance of being benighted, he would nevertheless linger to the last moment, and then close the book with regret. And when the walk was resumed, he sometimes stopped and exclaimed:—'Look, Alfred, observe that plant; what a study for an architect! Few architects can build churches and towers, or add pinnacles and ornaments with taste and skill; but let them come here—that plant with its little companion, and that with the large broad leaves in the background, would teach them a valuable lesson.'"

It will surprise not a few who have been accustomed to consider many of Stothard's later designs as impaired by the graceful exaggeration, not to say incorrectness of their proportions, to learn how severe a stickler he was for accuracy in drawing.—

"He deemed it absolutely necessary to learn to draw well, since, without good drawing, the finest conceived and coloured picture would but possess half its interest; for, in badly drawn figures, as in badly shaped limbs in a human being, there is always something of deformity, something not natural. Stothard indeed carried this admiration of good drawing very far. He went to see Martin's celebrated picture of Belshazzar's Feast, at the time all the town were engaged in admiring it. He praised the conception of it, as a whole, and especially the grandeur conveyed by the supernatural light from the writing on the wall, making pale and dim all the earthly lights, even the fires kindled to Moloch in the sacrifice. Yet, whilst doing the fullest justice to the genius of Martin, he soon turned away from the picture, with the remark, 'The bad drawing of the figures hurts my eye; it is disagreeable.'"

Yet Mrs. Bray's *memoranda* assure us—nay, we are fanciful enough to imagine that we could have divined as much from the grace and harmony of the artist's works—that never was professional man a less grudging admirer of the productions of his brethren.

The histories of the "Canterbury Pilgrims," of the Wellington Shield, and of the design for Chantrey's monument of the Sleeping Children in Lichfield Cathedral are severally discussed by Mrs. Bray at great length. In the case of the last-named work of Art, a question which has been again and again raised in a shadowy and uncertain sort of manner is brought to a precise solution by the publication of Stothard's original design, now in the possession of Mr. Peter Cunningham.

A paragraph or two illustrating the artless personal habits of the artist may be added by way of a close to our notes on this beautiful book.—

"In his external appearance, he certainly neglected the graces; for he was exceedingly careless in his dress, and his mind, absorbed in his pursuits, made him occasionally so lost, that he would do things that alone could be expected from persons well characterised as absent. He was once to dine, I believe, with Mr. Rogers, the poet, to meet Mrs. Barbauld, and, probably, Madame de Staël, during her visit to England. Stothard, on this occasion, had expressed his intention of making himself *smart!* But, when he got to the door of Mr. Rogers, in St. James's Place, feeling his throat rather cold, and before the portal opened to his rap, he chanced to place his hand on his neck, when he found that he had forgotten to put on his cravat! He made a hasty retreat before the door was opened, to return home for this very necessary part of his attire.—Charles used to relate an anecdote of his father's love of romance-reading; by which he was so absorbed as sometimes to forget both time and place. It occurred whilst that son was a boy of fifteen. The youth had been engaged in Mrs. Radcliffe's powerful work of 'The Italian.' Stothard took the book out of his son's hand just before the lad went to bed, to see what sort of romance had so bewitched him. The next day, Charles learnt that his father had been no less interested in it, and that he had sat up nearly all the night, till his candles were burnt out, and day dawned in upon him, ere he could close the volume."

With a laudable care, Mrs. Bray has drawn out a list of Stothard's principal pictures, and another of the prices fetched by his works when they were sold after the decease of the painter. His correspondence may have been too *pale* and too unmarked to figure with any effect in print:—but

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the heart and mind had other uses for the hand. His designs are said to be in number upwards of ten thousand.

J. M. W. TURNER, R.A.

Joseph Mallord William Turner, the great landscape painter of his age and country, died, on the 19th instant, in his seventy-sixth year, at Chelsea,—in a small lodging in which he had lived for some years, though his own house was in Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square. He was the father, or senior member, of the Royal Academy, — and had he lived but three months would have worn his honour of an R.A. exactly half a century. At the death of so eminent an artist we may be excused for recalling Cowley's exclamation on the death of Vandyck :—

Vandyck is dead; but what bold Muse shall dare
(Though poets in that word with painter's share)
T' express her sadness? Poesie must become
An Art like Painting here, an Art that's dumb.

But the two great painters thus accidentally coupled together had little in common save genius. Vandyck lived profusely, died young and in debt, —Turner lived penuriously, died old and enormously rich.

Our great landscape painter was the son of William Turner, a barber; and was born, in 1775, over his father's shop, at No. 26, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, on the north side of the lane, at the corner of Hand Court. His father dressed wigs, shaved beards, and in the days of queues, top-knots and hair powder waited on the gentlemen of "the Garden," as the locality still continues to be called, at their own houses, and made money by his trade, then a more flourishing profession than that of a hair-dresser in the present day. The mother's name no one has told us; — but the father lived to see his son famous,—dying, in 1829, in the painter's house in Queen Anne Street, at the age of eighty-four. He was buried, by his own request, in the church of St. Paul, Covent Garden,—where a small tablet to his memory, erected by his son, is still to be seen.

Where or in what way the son first evinced his love for Art has never transpired. He cared as little about talking of his early days as he did in after life of his finances; so that inquisitive persons gained little by any questions — and some were put to him—on the subject of his early predilection for Art. He was, however, an exhibitor at the Royal Academy Exhibition in his fifteenth year :—the Catalogue for 1790 recording the appearance of a 'View of the Archbishop's Palace at Lambeth,'—the artist being described as "J. W. Turner, living in Maiden Lane, Covent Garden." The view was a water-colour drawing,—as, indeed, were most of his early works; and the place of exhibition was the room set apart for "Sculptures and Drawings,"—statues, drawings, miniatures and models in wax being at that time grouped together in one apartment.

Mr. Turner continued henceforth a constant exhibitor in the rooms of the Royal Academy :—sending in 1791 views of 'The Palace at Eltham' and of 'Swakeley House near Uxbridge,'—in 1792 of 'Malmesbury Abbey' and of 'The Pantheon in Oxford Street on the Morning after the Fire,'—in 1793 of 'The Avon near St. Vincent's Rocks,' of 'St. Augustine's Gate at Canterbury,' and another subject in which he threw aside the trammels of architectural detail caught from the school of Mr. Dayes, and evinced for the first time that mastery of effect for which he is now so justly celebrated.. This was, 'The Rising Squall, Hot Wells from St. Vincent's Rock, Bristol;'—and artists who remarked the drawing at the time, and with whom we have talked on the subject of Turner's early works, were accustomed to speak of this early picture as one in which a common subject was treated with a poet's eye and a painter's hand.

The father feeling confidence in the genius of his son, and the son obtaining a little money from the sale of his drawings, a sufficient sum was raised from the barber's till and the painter's pocket to enable the young artist to look for distant and more striking subjects for his pencil. These he sought at Canterbury, where he drew Christ Churchgate and St. Anselm's Chapel with part of Becket's crown,—at Malvern, where he copied the porch of Tintern Abbey, of which he drew the interior,—and at the Devil's Bridge, in Cardiganshire, where he transferred to paper the 'Second Fall of the River Monach.' The whole of these drawings were in the Exhibition of 1794;—as other fruits of the same tour were in the Exhibition of the following year, varied by views of Lincoln and Peterborough Cathedrals—of the choir of King's College Chapel, Cambridge—and by drawings derived from scenes which had pleased him at Wrexham, Shrewsbury, and Tintern. From these he derived both profit and reputation; having, thus early, with Girtin and others, the honour of founding the English School of Water-Colour Art.

He continued his pursuit of topographical drawing for some time longer; finding that it was a profitable line of Art,—and feeling doubtless that travelling and the examination of new scenes enabled him to put together such phases and effects of nature as would be of future use in the higher line of landscape painting. He soon began to feel his strength and also to vary the subjects of his pencil. In 1796 we find him exhibiting 'Fishermen coming ashore at Sunset previous to a Gale;' and in 1798 he had extended his wanderings with the pencil into Yorkshire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Northumberland. 'The Seasons' was then as much his favourite poem as in after life was his own MS. 'Fallacies of Hope.' Over each scene he sought to throw an effect of cloud, or storm, or sunshine,—or some novel combination which he had observed in nature, different from the everlasting effects of moonlight and evening with which Pether and Barrett and even Loutherbourg had contrived to sicken and weary the public eye. Thus, Buttermere Lake he chose to represent under a shower,—Norham at daybreak (not as Sir Walter Scott drew it afterwards at day-set in the opening of 'Marmion') and under the colour of a 'View of Dunstanburgh Castle' he gave us an effect of sunrise after a squally night with a taste of the wild coast of Northumberland, and only a distant peep of the Castle from which the picture derived its name. Other favourite effects with him at this time were, a hazy sunrise, clearing up after a showery day, and the approach of a thunderstorm at sunset. He was thus early attentive to the varieties of nature, and copied her with a master's hand. He had not yet begun to make "additions" to nature,—and to think with Sir Godfrey Kneller that if his assistance had been sought at the beginning of the world, the world had been a more beautiful one than it now is.

His skill increasing with his years, he painted and exhibited in 1799 a picture of a 'Sunny Morning,' the cattle by Saurey Gilpin, R.A. (a curiosity, we should think, if not something more),—and 'The Battle of the Nile at ten o'clock when the ship L'Orient blew up.' These told with the public,—and, better still, with the Royal Academicians. His name was now popular even out of artistic circles; and in the election for associates in the winter of 1799—he was chosen an A.R.A. It was therefore time, he thought, to leave the garret over his father's shop:—so, he moved the next year from Maiden Lane to 64, Harley Street, then a much more fashionable street than it is now. Here his ambition in his art grew with his ambition for a good appearance in the world; and in 1800, in the first year of his associateship, he exhibited 'The Fifth Plague of Egypt,'—and in the second, 'Dutch boats in a gale, fishermen endeavouring to put their fish on board.' These added to his already well-earned reputation; and in February 1802 he was elected a Royal Academician,—presenting as his diploma picture a view of 'Dolbadern Castle, North Wales.' The list of associates from which he was chosen is indeed a sorry list :—not one, with the single exception of Bone the enamelist, whose best works would assist an artist at the present day to the honours of Suffolk Street or of the Free Exhibition.

Tired for a time—or rather perhaps deeming the public tired—of fishermen and the coast, and ships at anchor,—he turned to other subjects,—made hurried visits to Scotland, Switzerland and the Rhine,—and exhibited on his return his noble pictures of 'Edinburgh from the Calton Hill,' 'The Festival upon the opening of the Vintage of Macon' (Lord Yarborough's picture), and 'The Falls of the Rhine at Schaffhausen.' These were followed by 'Narcissus and Echo,' a 'Holy Family' (No. 156 of the Exhibition of 1803), 'Pembroke Castle—clearing up of a thunder storm,' and other pictures embodying scenes either abroad or at home. Still, however, sensibly insisting with himself on the charm of variety, and willing to show his command over effects, he painted and exhibited in 1807 'The Sun rising through vapour, fishermen cleaning and selling fish,'—and, more extraordinary still, 'A Country Blacksmith disputing upon the price of iron and the price charged to the butcher for shoeing his pony :—two pictures which "killed" every picture within the range of their effects. Oddly enough, a modest picture thus injured by being hung between the two fires was, 'The Blind Fiddler,'—then the second exhibited picture of a lad raw from Scotland contriving to exist, without getting into debt, on eighteen shillings a week. Turner, it is said, on the varnishing day set apart for the privileged body to which he belonged, reddened his sun, and blew the bellows of his art on his blacksmith's forge, "to put the Scotchman's nose out of joint who had gained so much reputation by his 'Village Politicians.'" The story is told, without naming Turner, in Allan Cunningham's 'Life of Wilkie,'—and is condemned as an untruth by the reviewer of the Life in the *Quarterly Review*. But there is no doubt of the truth of the story; and that Wilkie remembered the circumstance with some acerbity—though he never resented it openly—we can ourselves undertake to say. When 'The Forge' was sold at Lord Tankerville's sale, Wilkie was in Italy; and Collins, the painter, in describing the sale to him in a MS. letter now before us—adds, "And there was your old enemy, 'The Forge.'"

It was not often, however, that Turner was thus purposely overdone in colour to the injury of works hung within the range of his own pictures. It is told that on one occasion he actually injured the effect of a favourite landscape for the purpose of allowing a portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence to be seen to full advantage. If Lawrence when in the full blaze of his reputation was sensitive on the subject of too much colour reflected by a neighbouring picture, what must have been the feeling of a boy toiling and striving to awaken reputation under seal of that important body into whose hands he had entrusted his picture! These warm effects which Turner produced by a wholesale application of orange chrome were well illustrated by Chantrey on a varnishing day at the Academy when the weather for the time of year was unusually raw and cold. Stopping before a picture by Turner, he seized the artist's arm—placed his hands before a blaze of yellow in an attitude of obtaining warmth—and said, with a look of delight, "Turner, this is the only comfortable place in the room. Is it true, as I have heard, that you have a commission to paint a picture for the Sun Fire Office?"

We must leave the pleasant labour of following Turner year by year through his long list of exhibited pictures, and of water-colour drawings made by him and sold without being exhibited,—contenting ourselves with noticing generally the appearance of many works, some of which confirmed while others materially added to his reputation. Among the number which confirmed his fame, we may mention his 'Spithead Boat's Crew receiving an Anchor,' his 'Lowther Castle,' and 'The Deluge,'—and among those which added to his fame, his 'Apollo and Python,' his 'Dido and Æneas,' and his 'Dido building Carthage.' To this period also belongs the large picture of the 'Gale at Sea' now in the Bridgewater Gallery,—where it hangs as a worthy companion to one of Vandervelde's finest works, 'The Rising of the Gale.' 'The Guard Ship at the Nore,' a small picture in the possession of Mr. Wadmore, is another admirable example of his pencil in his early style of Art:—for, like Wilkie and a few other English artists — not to mention foreign instances — Turner had two styles, — his early, and as some think better, style,—his later and, as some think, worse. To

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this some have added a third or middle period, wherein he is thought to have embodied the excellencies of both periods without the mannerism of his later peculiarities. The student unacquainted with the characteristics of Turner's styles will find them admirably illustrated in the two large pictures belonging to Lord Yarborough exhibited at the British Institution about two years ago, and in the two views of Venice in the Vernon Gallery. It would be easy to point out other instances:—but in his latter style we have named a public gallery where his works may be seen without the slightest difficulty,—while with regard to his early manner we have thought of those only in which he is greatest, and those most recently before the public.

As Claude had his 'Liber Veritatis,' so Mr. Turner had his 'Liber Studiorum;'—but what Claude confined to a single copy, Mr. Turner enlarged to a greater number by engraving the designs of his own 'Liber' with his own hand. There are critics Turner-mad, who see in the 'Liber Studiorum'—

> Whate'er Lorraine light-touched with softening hue,
> Or Savage Rosa dash'd or learned Poussin drew,—

who find in it such a superabundance of material for landscape Art that a young man might succeed as a painter with no larger stock of combinations and effect than Turner has supplied in this volume. Of course this is very much overdone. Fresh Smiths of Chichester and Wrights of Derby might be mushroomed-up with ease from the hot-bed of the 'Liber Studiorum,'—but no young painter will become a great artist who gives his days and nights solely to its contents. The book is by no means common; so that, whatever is excellent in it—and there is much that is so—has as yet wrought neither good nor evil. It deserves to be studied,—and we hope now that it will become more accessible than it has hitherto been.

Hitherto, the works of our great painter of landscapes had been confined to the canvas and the skill of his own etching-needle,—but in 1814 he commenced, in conjunction with the two Cookes, his admirable work on the Picturesque Scenery of the Southern Coast,—of which it is not too much to say that it is one of the choicest publications which the eye of the painter and the hand of the engraver have as yet put forth. The choicer engravings are by the late George Cooke;—of whom it may be truly said that no one has succeeded better in catching the spirit of Mr. Turner's drawings, while at the same time he has done full justice to the requirements of his own art. This is no slender praise, when we consider that Turner has of late years employed the gravers of Goodall, Miller, Pye, Prior, and all the best artists of our school.—The plates to his 'River Scenery' and his 'Annual Tours' are of an inferior character.

Mr. Turner had many patrons,—and his pictures have found their way into many of our best private collections. At Petworth may be seen his 'Echo,' 'Evening,' 'The Thames at Eton,' a small middle-period picture, 'The Thames at Windsor,' 'Chichester Canal,' 'Petworth Park,' 'Brighton Pier,' 'Tabley House and Lake, Cheshire' (the best picture of his at Petworth), and that absurdity which all condemn, his 'Jessica at the Window,'—a female head looking out of a monster mustard-pot. We have already referred to the two famous pictures belonging to Lord Yarborough, and to the noble specimen of the same period of his art in the Bridgewater Gallery. Mr. Munro, of Hamilton Place, has his 'Venus and Adonis,' and two fine Italian landscapes of the best time of the second period. In the Vernon Gallery is his 'William the Third landing at Torbay;' at Mr. Sheepshanks' may be seen some good examples of his later period,—as also at Mr. Bicknell's at Herne Hill and Mr. Wadmore's at Stamford Hill. Mr. Rogers, the poet, has a marvellous drawing of 'Stonehenge' in his best manner. At Abbotsford are several beautiful drawings of the scenery and antiquities of Scotland:—but it is at Mr. Windus's on Tottenham Green that Turner is on his throne.—There, he may be studied, understood, and admired—not in half-a-dozen or twenty instances, but in scores upon scores of choice examples.

But the booksellers and print-publishers were as much his patrons as the owner of Petworth or of Appledurcombe. He was employed by both on very liberal terms—on almost, indeed, his own terms,—and he was far from a bad hand at making a bargain. Of this many amusing instances will bear to be told by his future biographer. In the book line, the best instance of his talents may be found in Rogers's 'Italy,' and the worst in his vignettes for Sir Egerton Brydges' edition of Milton.

He affected a mystery about his art,—and never allowed any of his own brethren of the brush to see him at work. At Petworth, he wrought with locked doors; and Chantrey, with whom he was on intimate terms, was enabled to see him at work only by the aid of a trick. Chantrey by a bribe had taken care to ascertain from one of the servants of the house the peculiar knock which Lord Egremont was accustomed to give at Turner's door when the patron was anxious to see the painter at his labour. Possessed of this secret, Chantrey proceeded to the door, imitating Lord Egremont's step and cough,—and gave, with admirable similitude of sound, the very kind of knock which Lord Egremont was accustomed to give. The door opened immediately, and in walked Chantrey,—much at first to the annoyance of Turner; who was subdued to good humour only by the recollection that Chantrey, though once a painter, was now *living* by sculpture. This affectation of a secret was unworthy of a great artist. No other great painter ever professed to have a secret. Wilkie prepared his palette before young and old, and even painted while painters were in the room.

It was a piece of good sense in Turner carried to eccentricity, to purchase and roll up many of the choice examples of his own pencil. He did not collect the works of others, but he hoarded up his own. Absurd prices have been offered to him for his 'Carthage' and his 'Crossing the Brook,'—two of the pictures which he chose to retain and rank among his choicest productions. But no; he would not part with them:—and what their state may now be, and what their destiny, it is idle to conjecture.

The artists of his admiration—the only artists whom he cared to talk about—were Reynolds and Girtin. He lived at Twickenham; he affected to say,—that he might live in sight of Sir Joshua's house upon the hill. He drew his purse to buy Sir Joshua's palette to present to Shee;—and he has, it is said, requested to be buried in St. Paul's by the side of Sir Joshua. His admiration for Girtin took a less tangible form. In a fit of generosity he talked of erecting a monument to mark the grave of his friend and rival in Covent Garden churchyard; but when the amount was named—a few shillings over ten pounds—he shrugged his shoulders, and rested satisfied with the bare intention. The grave, we are sorry to say, is still unmarked;—a head-stone to Girtin would be a graceful tribute from either the old or the New Water Colour Society,—or, indeed, from both.

It is already asked in artistic circles,—"Will the fame of Turner remain enduringly at its present height,—and will not posterity avenge the excess of contemporary admiration by a too low estimate of his genius?" A large proportion of his pictures, of both periods of his art, will always, it can scarcely be doubted, realize large prices; but those eccentricities of a great genius in which he of late years indulged, and which rendered it necessary that he should attach rings to his pictures (contrary to Academical requirements) in order to show which side of the picture should be hung uppermost,—these were his dotages and lees, and will in all probability sink in reputation and in price. No amount of ingenious writing can maintain them in their present position. Like Wilkie's works in his later style—of which so much was said in his own lifetime—they will fall to their proper level. Whoever wishes to possess a single Turner will if he has true taste take care to secure, if he can, a picture of a period before 1820. No painter will be found to have thrown both nature and art into more extraordinary convulsions than he in his later works—in some possessing many of his finer qualities. His views of Venice, noble *poems* as they are in many respects, are in parts grossly untrue. He twists buildings into places where in reality they are not,—and piles Mr. Ruskin's beloved "Stones of Venice" in localities in which Mr. Ruskin we are sure is unable to maintain them. Contrast the noble 'View of Venice' by Bonington, in Mr. Munro's collection, with the Turner in the Vernon Gallery,—and see what outrages Turner in the eccentricity and abundance of his genius has thought fit to commit with materials requiring no such jugglery to make them more picturesque than they really are.

In some quarters our opinions will be received as so many proofs of ignorance—so many insults offered to the majesty of genius:—we feel, however, that we are doing full justice to a great painter while writing thus prophetically. He is, beyond question, at the head of our landscape painters,—greater than Wilson, greater than Gainsborough. Contrasted with the great masters of the Continental schools, he will be admitted as worthy to rank with Claude and Poussin. But he is more varied than either:—giving us, as he does at times, pictures worthy of Cuyp or of Vandervelde,—which Claude and Poussin never attempted to supply.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The absurd regulation by which the Royal Academy of Fine Arts refuses to fill up a vacancy in the list of its higher members which has not been declared three months, and limits itself to choosing Academicians at only one period of the year, will once more—as it did only a short time ago—operate to keep certain rights in abeyance for somewhere about fourteen months. It is difficult to understand the policy of such a rule,—or why the Academy, having a vacancy in its body, should not at once proceed to fill it up. By the death of Mr. Turner—announced in the preceding columns—some Associate, whoever that may be, is at once entitled to take full rank as an Academician,—and some artist or other outside the walls acquires a title to succeed him as an Associate. The honour is in any case waited for sufficiently long to make it desirable that no time should, at any rate, be lost in conferring it when the opportunity has accrued,—still more so, that the chance should not be wantonly incurred of defeating altogether by unnecessary delay an acknowledged title. The same power that stepped between Wyatt and that dignity with which we fancy the Academy regrets sincerely now that it never invested him, may intervene to convert what is meant merely as retardation into deprivation—a definite adjournment into one *sine die*. In that case, what is always a temporary injustice becomes a final and irremediable wrong. The Academy has too many sins of this kind already on its conscience:—surely an arrangement so needless, in as far as we can see, and involving so much injustice, might be reconsidered.

Speaking of the Academy, we may mention that many candidates are, as we are informed, in the field, for the Professorship of Anatomy vacated by the resignation of Mr. Green. The names of Messrs. South, Skey, Tuson, and Simpson are amongst those which have been mentioned to us.

We have seen a specimen of what, so far as we know, is a new form of publication,—a portrait of Kossuth taken by the daguerreotype,—the actual photographs being circulated by Messrs. Henneman & Co., of Regent Street, instead of copies taken in lithograph. They are enclosed in small miniature cases after the manner of original portraits of the daguerreotype class. The likeness is verified by the written testimonial of Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart,—to which verrification, from personal knowledge we can add our own. It seems to us that this is a very interesting use of photography,—and, in cases where the celebrity of the subject can command such a circulation as will render it possible to sell copies so taken at a low price, should offer remuneratory temptations to a publisher. It is obviously inapplicable under other conditions.

While on the subject of the Daguerreotype we cannot refrain from alluding, as proof of the perfection to which the improved processes that have been from time to time recorded in our columns are gradually bringing this instrument of representation, to one of its products which we have lately seen. It is a portrait, by the daguerreotypist

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himself, of Mr. Mayall,—and whose labours in his art have been kept before the public by his communications to our columns. The portrait is on a large scale,—and has but little in common with works of its class. It is rather like such a first-rate mezzotinto print as we are accustomed to see from the hands of Samuel Cousins.—Breadth of effect, masses of light and shade—the latter without blackness—so beautifully reflected into, that every gradation may be traced in uninterrupted continuity—absence of the severe and morose—admirable tinting and execution of the drapery, broad in its general mass, yet full of the most delicate details—these combined with a simple action whose forms are not exaggerated by ill-judged management of focal distance—are the elements of one of the most successful results of this process that we have ever yet beheld. It testifies to resources of many kinds:—sensibility to Art, optical knowledge, and chemical practice.

Mr. Cockerell, the Professor of Architecture in the Royal Academy, will begin his course of lectures to the students of that institution on Thursday, the 8th of January next, and continue them on the five succeeding Thursdays.

It has been determined that a bronze statue of the Queen shall be erected in Peel Park, Manchester, to commemorate Her Majesty's visit to the Park, and the assemblage of the scholars of the Sunday schools on that occasion. The minimum sum proposed to be raised by subscription for the work is, 1,500*l.*:—and we suppose that the principle of competition will once more be called into exercise. This principle, in spite of much that may be said—and that we have again and again pointed out—in objection to it—seems as a mere matter of reasoning to present the best means of obtaining the best work for the money subscribed. But theoretical views must be tested and finally determined by practical results; and there is no denying that the principle has been found to work unsatisfactorily. One reason for this is so obvious as scarcely to need stating. In order that competition should produce the best work, it is necessary that the best artists should compete:—and unless the prize be high, the highest sculptors are not tempted into the field—nor always if it be. We would suggest to this Committee—who have but a small sum to offer for a bronze statue—that they might very prudently, without any direct appeal of their own to competition, avail themselves of a limited and unconscious competition which is now going on as beneficially for their purpose as if they had summoned it. In the course of next year, some of the great towns of England will have uncovered for posterity their monuments to the great Memory which consecrates the very Park in which their new statue is to be placed. Let them take these arbitrarily for their candidate models,—and let the offer of their proposed work be the prize of that which they adjudge to be the best—price and other conditions being taken into the account.

The Royal Scottish Academy of Art has, it is said, made during the past year certain valuable additions to its collection of works of Art. The well-known and excellent copy executed by Mr. Reinagle, of Rubens's 'Crucifixion' has been presented to that institution by Mrs. Robertson, of Ednam.—Sir John Watson Gordon has, we learn, offered to paint full-length portraits of Lord Rutherford and of Sir William Gibson Craig, as a mark of the artist's appreciation of the services to which the public and the profession were indebted for the successful issue of the negotiations respecting the erection of a National Gallery. The pictures to be the property of the institution.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL WINTER EVENINGS.—WILLIS'S ROOMS.—1852.—In consequence of the Anniversary of the Madrigal Society taking place on the 15th of January, the FIRST CONCERT is deferred until the 22th of January. Sonatas, Duetts, Trios, Quartetts, Quintetts, Tertetts, Septetts, Ottetts, Nonetts, and Solos will be executed by Sivori, Sainton, Hill, Piatti, Bottesini, Briccialdi, Barret, Baumann, Lazarus, the eminent pianist Herr Pauer, and other distinguished artists.—Subscription for the Six Concerts, 1*l.* 1*s.* These Evenings will be conducted in the same social spirit as the Matinées of the Musical Union. A limited number of Season Tickets at One Guinea each are reserved for Artists and Students. Prospectuses to be had of Cramer & Co., and the Principal Music-sellers. J. ELLA, Director.

PANTOMIMES.

Notwithstanding the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain, the Pantomimes this year promise to be in great force. As they will not appear till too late for notice this week, and will have been seen by so many who are interested before our next publication, we shall content ourselves with an announcement of the promise held out by the Play Bills.

Mr. Bunn's at DRURY LANE is the most classical in conception and the most catholic in its moral:—Hogarth's 'Two Apprentices' providing it with a subject and a title. The management seems to have commenced with spirit.—An operatic and ballet company is announced:—to consist of Messrs. Sims Reeves, Whitworth and Manvers,—Mesdames Sims Reeves, P. Horton, Poole, Mdlle. Evelina Garcia, and M. Feder,—and of Mdlle. Plunkett, M. Petipa, Mr. W. H. Payne, and Mdlle. Priora. The Parisian ballet *Vert Vert*—M. Planché's spectacle—and operas by Messrs. W. Balfe, J. Barnett, Macfarren, Benedict, and E. Loder are among the forthcoming novelties of the musical department.

At the PRINCESS'S, the Brothers Sala and Mr. George Ellis have united the plots of the ballad of 'Billy Taylor' and the legend of 'The Flying Dutchman.' The title of the pantomime is 'Harlequin Billy Taylor; or, the Flying Dutchman and the King of the Island of Raritongo.'

At the OLYMPIC, also, there is a pantomime—one of the numerous pieces of the kind by Mr. Nelson Lee. It is entitled 'Red Rufus; or, Harlequin Fact, Fiction and Fancy.'

SADLER'S WELLS is great in pantomime. As usual, the present one is the work of Mr. Greenwood; whose subject is, the present gold mania, offered under the tempting title of 'Harlequin and the Yellow Dwarf; or, the Enchanted Orange Tree and the King of the Gold Mine.'

At the SURREY, the pantomime is by Mr. E. L. Blanchard:—and is entitled 'The King of the Golden Seas; or, Harlequin Blue Cap and the Three Kingdoms, Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral.'

The pantomime at the MARYLEBONE theatre is entitled 'Sir John Barleycorn; or, Harlequin Champagne and the Fairies of Hop and Vine.'—Mr. Nelson Lee has catered for himself at the CITY OF LONDON:—'Oliver Cromwell; or, Harlequin Charley over the Water and the Maid of Patty's Mill' is the title of the pantomime.—The same writer has been the provider for ASTLEY'S. The subject there is taken from *Punch*:—'Mr. and Mrs. Briggs; or, Harlequin and Punch's Festival.'—The same indefatigable pantomime manufacturer has likewise supplied the theatres royal Victoria, Edinburgh, Southampton, Liverpool, Norwich, and Dublin, and the Royal Circus at Plymouth, with their Christmas pieces.

From Pantomimes we pass to the

BURLESQUES.

In these eccentric dramas the HAYMARKET occupies by right the first position. Here, the Brothers Brough provide an entertainment. It is called 'The Princess Radiant; or, the Story of Mayflower,' and is taken from Count Anthony Hamilton's Fairy Tales.—At the LYCEUM the indefatigable Mr. Planché has again resorted to the Countess D'Alnois,—and for his subject has chosen 'The Prince of Happy Land.' Mrs. Mathews makes her appearance in this piece with Miss St. George and Miss Lanza; to whom may be added Miss Martindale and Miss Grove. Mr. F. Matthews, Mr. Baker, Mr. Suter and Mr. Horncastle are the leading actors.—PUNCH'S PLAYHOUSE has also an Extravaganza,—a Chinese one, by Messrs. G. Talfourd and Hale. It is founded on the love-story of the Willow-pattern, and entitled 'The Willow-pattern Plate.'

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The past twelve months may be looked back on as a musical year neither very fruitful nor very interesting. In London, it may be said that the standard of performance has been kept up,—that the amount of home-effort at creation has been on the whole inconsiderable,—that distinguished strangers have been few,—and that the only artist unfamiliar to England, Madame Barbieri-Nini, may be alleged, in more senses of the word than one, to have arrived too late. In stating these facts, however, we are not to be numbered among the disappointed professors and overworked jurymen who, retrospectively reviewing the small amount of musical progress and satisfaction in 1851, cry "*The Great Exhibition has done it all!*" For years have we week by week been pointing out how on the side of the Artist too low ambitions, and on that of the Public too high expectations, ran some risk of narrowing and exhausting Music. The time of exhaustion—or, to be more hopeful, let us call it the time of preparation—seems now to have set in. The future may largely depend on the manner in which its good influences are turned to account and its evil ones counteracted.

The foreign musical year has been marked by one important event,—the appearance of M. Gounod, and his acceptance as a composer. We have little need to restate our judgment of this gentleman. The recognition of his music has been more rapid, both in England and in France, than was the case with either Beethoven, Mendelssohn, or Meyerbeer. Should the coming year prove one of outward political tranquillity, it may be also one of new productions. That it may prove the latter is a petition which should be the first on the rosary of every musician,—be he artist or amateur.

The Scotch papers have reported the death of Mr. Alexander, the proprietor of Dunlop Street Theatre, Glasgow,—who had only a few months since retired from the stage. The deceased was fifty-five years of age. As a comedian, says the *Glasgow Courier*, he ranked high in his profession. During his career he was lessee of the Adelphi Theatre in his native city, and also of the Carlisle and Dumfries Theatres; but for a period of from twenty to thirty years he has been most intimately connected with the management of dramatic representations in Glasgow, and particularly of the establishment in Dunlop Street. "The announcement of his death," adds the *Courier*, "will bring to the recollection of many of the sons of Glasgow who are removed from their native city reminiscences in connexion with its local theatricals peculiarly amusing."

MISCELLANEA

Electro-Telegraphic Progress.—The Submarine Telegraph Company are getting made several new metallic cables, in addition to that already in operation—one conductor being already insufficient to convey the multitude of despatches now exchanged between London and the Continent. The facility and certainty with which the telegraph has worked have already effected a great revolution in commercial arrangements, which would be thrown into confusion by the rupture of the communication. Night and day it is carried on. There is still a space of about a mile (from East Cliff to the South-Eastern Telegraph Office) unconnected by the wires. The distance has to be done by horse express, and, consequently, causes a few minutes break in the communication. The desideratum is, however, to be speedily supplied. The number of telegraphic stations now open and in connexion with the central station of the Electric Telegraph Company in Lothbury, amount to 226, embracing all the principal towns in the kingdom. Nearly seventy are principal commercial stations, at which the attendance is day and night: the length of the lines of communication extend over 2,500 miles, with 800 in progress of suspension. Since the partial reduction of charges, it is said, persons of all classes are availing themselves of its advantages for business purposes.—*Builder.*

Nimrud Obelisk.—The following identification will, I dare say, interest many of your readers. The king who is represented in the second line of the sculptures on the obelisk is no other than Jehu, king of Israel. He is called Ya'u-a the son of Kh'u-um-r'i-i; that is Jehu the son of Omri, or according to the English version, Jehu the son of Omri. The name of his supposed father is precisely that which appears in the cuneatic name of Samaria, Bit-Khumri, as identified by Col. Rawlinson. It is true that Jehu was

neither the son nor the grandson of Omri; nor is it probable that he was connected with his family at all; but the king of Assyria could not know this. He found him on the throne where Omri had sat; and this was a sufficient reason for his calling him his son. As a corroboration of this identification, I observe that Hazael, the king of Syria, the known contemporary of Jehu, is repeatedly mentioned on the Obelisk and in the Bull inscriptions of the same king. He waged war with him in his eighteenth and twenty-first years. Col. Rawlinson calls this king *Khazakan*; but the four characters which compose the name are according to my syllabary *Khâ'-zâ or zâ-i'-ê-Il*, the last being here the ideograph for "God." This name would be in Hebrew חזאל, which is nearly the Biblical name of the king. From this identification, it follows, that the date of the obelisk is, according to the chronology in the margin of our Bibles, about 875 B.C., leaving an interval of less than 150 years between it and the accession of Sargon, the Khorsabad king.

I am, &c. EDW. HINCKS.

Killyleagh, Co. Down, December 22.

Perturbations of Uranus.—The Paris correspondent of the *Literary Gazette* says:—"A curious fact for astronomers has just been ascertained. In the papers of the celebrated Lalande, recently presented to the Academy of Sciences by M. Arago, there is a note to the effect that so far back as the 25th of October, 1800, he and Burckhardt were of opinion, from calculations, that there must be a planet beyond Uranus, and they occupied themselves for some time in trying to discover its precise position.

An Idyl for Christmas In-doors.

SPIRIT OF THE HOLLY.

The icy streams are black and slow;
The icy wind goes sighing, sighing;
And far around, and deep below,
The great, broad, blank, unfeatured snow
On the idle earth is lying;
And the birds in the ale are dying.
Just now, ere the day-beams fled,
Out of doors I thrust my head,
And saw the livid western light
Shrink up, like an eye bewitch'd,
At the staring of the Night.
The bare branches writhed and twitch'd;
And the holly-bushes old
Chatter'd among themselves for cold,
And scraped their leaves against one another,
And nestled close, like child with mother.
* * * * *

SPIRIT OF THE LAUREL.

Gone is the Summer's warmth and light;
Gone are the rich, red Autumn days;
And Winter old, and Winter white,
Sits moodily in the open ways.
Like a great dumb marble statue,
'Midst his upon the wold;
And his grey eyes, staring at you,
Make you also dumb with cold.
And the woods grow lean and swarth
In the vestings of the North.
* * * *

SPIRIT OF THE MISTLETOE.

Behind the night young morn is sleeping,
And new hope underlies old weeping.
So, though all the woods are stark,
And the heavens are drowsy-dark,
Earth, within her shadowy dam,
Swings about her golden sun.
Firm and steadily,
True and readily,
Strong in her palace, every one.
In a deadly sleep she seems;
But her heart is full of dreams—
Full of dreaming and of vision,
Subtle, typical, Elysian,
Out of which, in time, shall rise
All the New Year's verities.

—*Christmas Number of 'Household Words.'*

A Nut for Geologists.—Hiram de Witt, of this town, who has recently returned from California, brought with him a piece of the auriferous quartz rock, of about the size of a man's fist. On Thanksgiving-day it was brought out for exhibition to a friend, when it accidentally dropped upon the floor and split open. Near the centre of the mass, was discovered, firmly embedded in the quartz and slightly corroded, a cut-iron nail, of the size of a sixpenny nail. It was entirely straight, and had a perfect head. By whom was that nail made? At what period was it planted in the yet unerystallized quartz? How came it in California? If the head of that nail could talk, we should know something more of American history than we are ever likely to know.—*Springfield (U.S.) Republican.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Received H. G. B.—C. H.—A. C.—AL.—S. A. S.—F.S.A.—P. Mc F.—T. R. J.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—Our communications on this head from Mr. Archer, Mr. Fox Talbot, and Mr. Robert Hunt stand over for want of space.

G.J.A.—This correspondent's communication stands over for the same reason.

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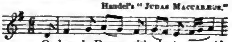

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THE NEXT PERIODICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, TAKES PLACE AT 31st DECEMBER 1852.—PARTIES PURPOSING TO EFFECT ASSURANCES WITH THE SOCIETY ARE REMINDED OF THE ADVANTAGE TO BE DERIVED FROM LODGING THEIR PROPOSALS BEFORE THE 31st DECEMBER OF THE CURRENT YEAR, THEREBY SECURING THE BENEFIT OF A FULL YEAR'S STANDING OVER LATER ENTRANTS, AND BEING ENTITLED TO RANK FOR TWO YEARS' ADDITIONS AT THE ENSUING INVESTIGATION.
JOHN MACKENZIE, *Manager.*
WILLIAM LINDESAY, *Secretary.*
Edinburgh, 5, St. Andrew-square.
LONDON OFFICE—4, Royal Exchange-buildings.
HUGH M'KEAN, *Agent.*

SUN FIRE OFFICE, Established 1710.
Threadneedle-street; Craig's-court, Charing-cross; and No. 65, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, London.

Managers.
William R. Hamilton, Esq. *Chairman and Treasurer.*
Charles Bell Ford, Esq. *Deputy-Chairman.*

William Beresford, Esq. M.P.	H. F. Shaw Lefevre, Esq.
The Hon. P. Pleydell Bouverie.	Henry Littledale, Esq.
Harry Chester, Esq.	George Warde Norman, Esq.
Samuel Pepys Cockerell, Esq.	Brice Pearse, Esq.
Raikes Currie, Esq. M.P.	Charles Richard Pole, Esq.
John Drummond, Esq.	Lambert Pole, Esq.
Russell Ellice, Esq.	Charles Ranken, Esq.
William Franks, Esq.	Henry Rich, Esq. M.P.
Capt. H. G. Hamilton, R.N.	John Shepherd, Esq.
Joseph Hoare, Esq.	Henry Stuart, Esq. M.P.
Felix Ladbroke, Esq.	C. George Thornton, Esq.

All persons insured in this Office, the Premiums on whose Policies fall due at the Christmas quarter, are hereby reminded to pay the said Premiums, either at the Offices in Threadneedle-street; Craig's-court, Charing-cross; at No. 65, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square; or to the Agents in the Country, on or before the 9th day of January, 1852, when the fifteen days, allowed by this Office, over and above the time for which they are insured, will expire.

Insurances may be made for more years than one by a single payment, and in such cases there will be a discount allowed on the premium and duty for every year except the first.

RATES OF PREMIUM.

First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
1s. 6d. per cent.	2s. 6d. per cent.	4s. 6d. per cent.

This Office insures Property in Foreign Countries, and the Rates are regulated by the nature of the risks.
Sun Duty—1848, 181,270l.; 1849, 180,702l.; 1850, 181,148l.

THE GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1837. Empowered by special Acts of Parliament, 3rd Vict. c. xx. and 10th Vict. c. i. 62, King William-street, London; and 21, St. David-street, Edinburgh.
Capital, One Million.

Directors.

George Bousfield, Esq.	Charles Hindley, Esq. M.P.
Thomas Challis, Esq. & Ald.	Thomas Piper, Esq.
Jacob G. Cope, Esq.	Thomas B. Simpson, Esq.
John Dixon, Esq.	Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.
Joseph Fletcher, Esq.	John Wilks, Esq.
Richard Hollier, Esq.	Edward Wilson, Esq.

The CHRISTMAS Fire Renewal Receipts are now ready, and may be had on application at the head offices of the Company, or of any of its Agents throughout the country.

IN THE LIFE DEPARTMENT the Company transacts all business relating to Life Assurances, Deferred Annuities, and Family Endowments, upon the most liberal terms consistent with sound principles and public security.

LOANS granted on personal security, and the deposit of a Life Policy to be effected by the borrower.

To all Agents, Solicitors, Auctioneers, and Surveyors, liberal allowance is made.
By Order of the Board,
THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY. Capital 550,000l. Duty, 1849, 73,941l. 13s. Farming Stock exempt, 9,722, 10s.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Return of Premium, declared by this Office in respect of all Premiums paid from the 24th of December, 1845, to the 24th of December, 1850, is now in the course of payment, and will continue so till Midsummer next, as the respective Insurances fall due. By the Constitution of this Society 3-5ths of the net profits are periodically returned to the Insured, who are at the same time free from all responsibility on account of its engagements. In this manner the cost of insuring is reduced to the lowest possible amount.

For Prospectuses apply to the Society's Offices, and 6, Crescent, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, Surrey-street, Norwich.

COUNTY FIRE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street, and 2, Royal Exchange Buildings, London.
Established 1806.

It is respectfully notified to parties holding policies in this office, the renewals of which fall due at Christmas, that the same should be paid on or before the 9th of January. The receipts are lying at the Offices in London, and in the hands of the several Agents.

The terms of the County Fire Office are highly advantageous to the Insured, and have secured to it a large share of public approbation. All claims are settled with promptitude and liberality. Full particulars will be immediately furnished to parties applying personally, or by post, to either of the above Offices, or to any of the Agents, who are appointed in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom.
JOHN A. BEAUMONT, Managing Director.

THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
Established 1836,
9 and 10, WATER-STREET, LIVERPOOL;
and 20 and 21, POULTRY, LONDON.
Capital, Two Millions Sterling. Reserved Funds, 300,000l.
Liability of Proprietors unlimited.

CHRISTMAS POLICIES should be renewed within fifteen days after the 25th December; the Renewal Receipts are in the hands of the Agents.

FIRE INSURANCE at home and abroad on liberal terms, and no charge for new policies.

LIFE INSURANCE in all its branches.

LIFE POLICIES, when taken out under Table No. 2, have FIXED BONUSES GUARANTEED TO THEM, not contingent on Profits, without any Liability of Partnership to the Assured, and at moderate Premiums.

Prospectuses, and all information, may be had on application.
BENJAMIN HENDERSON, Resident Secretary.
SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.

UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE, (FIRE. LIFE. ANNUITIES.)
Cornhill and Baker-street, London; College-green, Dublin; and Grosseneger-street, Hamburgh.
Instituted A.D. 1714.

LIFE.—Reduced Rates for Young and Middle Ages, with the Guarantee of a Company in existence for nearly 140 years.

The last BONUS (1848) gave additions to Policies varying from 25 to 70 per Cent. on the previous Seven Years' Premiums.

Lower Rates without Profits.

Two-thirds only of the Premium may be paid until death.

Decreasing and Increasing Rates of Premium, and half-yearly or quarterly.

Loans granted. Medical Fees allowed.

FIRE INSURANCES at the usual rates, and PROFITS returned on Policies taken out for seven years by prompt payment.
THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.

INSURANCE AGAINST RAILWAY ACCIDENTS, BY THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE COMPANY.
Empowered by special Act of Parliament, 12 & 13 Vict. cap. 40.
Offices, No. 3, Old Broad-street, London.

TABLE OF PREMIUMS.

For the convenience of frequent or daily travellers the Company issue periodical tickets at the following rates of premium, which give the holder the option of travelling in any class carriage, and on any railway in the kingdom:—

TO INSURE
£1,000, at an annual premium of 20s.
200, 5s.

Single journey tickets are likewise issued at most railway stations in the kingdom, at the following rates of premium:

3d. to insure £1,000, in a first-class carriage.
2d. ditto 500, in a second-class carriage.
1d. ditto 200, in a third-class carriage.

These sums to be paid to the legal representatives of the holder in case of fatal accident while travelling by railway, with proportionate compensation to himself in case of personal injury.
ALEXANDER BEATTIE, Secretary.
3, Old Broad-street, Nov. 1851.

CALEDONIAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Established in 1805; Incorporated by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament.
19, George-street, Edinburgh; 37, Moorgate-street, London.

LONDON BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
JOHN BANNIE, Esq. Chairman.

John Chas. Conybeare, Esq.	John Dawson, Esq.
John Earley Cook, Esq.	George Smouch, Esq.

Five-sixths, or nearly 84 per cent., of the profits are divided amongst the participating Policy holders.

The success which has attended the Life Department will be seen by the following Examples of the last bonus declared in 1850.

Age.	Sum Insured.	Duration of Policy.	Premium paid.	Bonus.
	£.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
20	500	6 years	74 16 0	27 10 0
..	1,000	7 years	174 0 0	87 10 0
..	1,000	8 years	220 0 0	[illegible] 0 0
..	2,000	9 years	448 10 0	[illegible] 0 0
..	2,500	10 years	672 18 4	[illegible] 10 0
..	3,000	11 years	[illegible] 5 0	[illegible] 10 0

To those who prefer securing an immediate Bonus at a cheap rate, the New Table of Rates for Insurances on the non-participating scale will be found to offer great advantages.

Loans are granted on liberal terms in connexion with life assurance, on good personal or other security.

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and every information, may be obtained on application at the Office, 37, Moorgate-street, London.
EDWARD F. SEALE, Manager.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY; established by Act of Parliament in 1834.—8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

Chairman—Charles Graham, Esq.
Deputy-Chairman—Charles Downes, Esq.

H. Blair Avarne, Esq.	J. G. Henriques, Esq.
E. L. Boyd, Esq. Resident.	F. Chas. Maitland, Esq.
Charles B. Curtis, Esq.	William Railton, Esq.
William Fairlie, Esq.	F. H. Thomson, Esq.
D. Q. Henriques, Esq.	Thomas Thorby, Esq.

LONDON BOARD.

The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
* 1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	22 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	628 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

* Example.—At the commencement of the year 1841, a person aged thirty took out a Policy for 1,000l., the annual payment for which is 24l. 1s. 8d.; in 1847 he had paid in premiums 168l. 11s. 8d.; but the profits being 2¼ per cent. per annum on the sum insured (which is 22l. 10s. per annum for each 1,000l.) he had 157l. 10s. added to the Policy, almost as much as the premiums paid.

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director, at the Office, 8, Waterloo-place, London.

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SCOTTISH UNION FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, 37, Cornhill, London.—NOTICE is hereby given, that a DIVIDEND of 7½ per cent. (free of income tax,) on the capital stock of this Corporation, will become PAYABLE on the 2nd of January next, and Proprietors, resident in and near London, can receive the same at the office, 37, Cornhill, on that or any subsequent day, between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock. By order of the Board.

37, Cornhill, December, 1851. F. G. SMITH, Secretary.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LONDON.

SHARE OF PROFIT INCREASED FROM ONE-HALF TO FOUR-FIFTHS.

Policies effected with this Society after Midsummer, 1850, and remaining in force at each Septennial period of division, will PARTICIPATE IN FOUR-FIFTHS of the Net Profits of the Society accruing after Midsummer, 1850, in proportion to their contributions to those profits, and according to the conditions contained in the Society's Prospectus and Act of Parliament.

The Premiums required by this Society for insuring young lives are much lower than in many other old-established offices, and Insurers are fully protected from all risk by an ample guarantee fund in addition to the accumulated funds derived from the investments of Premiums.

CHARLES HENRY LIDDERDALE, Actuary.

SELF-PROTECTING ASSURANCE.—By a new combination of interests, an ordinary Assurance for behoof of others, an Endowment or payment of a principal sum of money, and an Annuity in advanced years, for the insured himself, and the certainty of receiving full value for every premium that has been paid, although the insurance should be discontinued, are secured by one rate of premium.

By this plan of Assurance, the following advantages are secured by ONE POLICY:

1. The payment of a principal sum at a specified age.
2. An Annuity to commence at that age.
3. Relief from the payment of premiums after that age.
4. The payment of a principal sum in the event of death, whenever that may happen.
5. The full [illegible] of all sums paid, although the premiums should at any time be discontinued.
6. Periodical payments to suit the convenience of the Assured.

INDISPUTABLE LIFE POLICY COMPANY,
72, Lombard-street, and 24, Connaught-terrace.
ALEX. ROBERTSON, Manager.

EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY,
LONDON, August 8, 1851.

AT the Annual General Meeting of Proprietors held this day, the Hon. John Chetwynd Talbot, Q.C., the Chairman of the Company, in the chair,

A Report was read, from which it appeared—

That the income of the Company for the year ending June 30, 1851, was	£140,[illegible]	1	9
The Premium on Policies issued in the year	[illegible]	13	9
The claims on decease of lives assured	[illegible]	1	[illegible]
The expenses	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
The total assets of the Company	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

The Report entered into further details, and finished by stating that the Directors felt it unnecessary to dwell further upon the items of the year's account, as the quinquennial valuation to be made in June next was so near.

The Report was unanimously adopted, and some routine business having been disposed of, the thanks of the meeting were very cordially voted to the Chairman, Directors, and Officers of the Company, when the meeting separated.

The Premiums required by this Company are very moderate, and moreover are adequately adjusted.

The Assured of the participating class share the whole surplus, less 20 per cent. only.

The lives assured may travel and live in any part of the globe, not within thirty degrees of the equator, without extra charge.

Transfers are registered, and assignments may be effected on forms supplied by the Company, and in all particulars the interests of the Assured are carefully consulted.

3, Crescent, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.
September, 1851.

SAFETY for STREET DOORS.—CHUBB'S PATENT LATCHES, with very small and neat keys, are perfectly safe from the attempts of picklocks and false keys. They are very strong, not liable to get out of order, and the price so low as to place them within the reach of all classes. Chubb's Patent Fire-proof Safes and Boxes form a complete preservation for deeds, plate, books, &c. from fire and thieves. C. Chubb & Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; 28, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton.

HOUSE FURNISHING and INTERIOR DECORATIVE ESTABLISHMENT, 451, OXFORD-STREET, LONDON.—Cabinet Furniture of every description at marked prices. Brussels Carpet, 2s. 9d. per yard. Damask Curtains, 10d. per yard and upwards. Ditto, in Silk and Worsted (French fabrics), nearly two yards wide, at 6s. per yard.—The best Floor Cloths that can be made, cut to any dimensions, 2s. 3d. per yard. The largest Manufactory in London for Paper Hangings, English and French Decorations, adapted either to the Cottage or the Mansion, fitted up, showing the side of a room furnished.—E. T. ARCHER, 451, Oxford-street.

SELF-SEALING ENVELOPES, 6d. per 100; Cream-laid Note Paper, 5 quires for 9d.; Large size ditto, 5 quires for 1s.; Plain Envelopes to match, 9d. per 100. Best Sealing Wax, 14 sticks for 1s. Card Plate engraved for 2s. 6d.; 100 best Cards printed for 2s. 6d. A choice Collection of Dressing Cases, Writing and Travelling Cases, Work Boxes, Envelope Boxes, Blotting Books, Inkstands, Cutlery, &c., at WILLIAM LOCKWOOD'S, 75, New Bond-street, near Oxford-street. Remittances for 20s. sent carriage free.

*** The finest Eau de Cologne imported at 2s. per bottle, or 11s. per case of six bottles.

SILVER TEA SERVICES of New Patterns.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Working Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, opposite the Bank, have recently finished several new and elegant patterns of TEA and COFFEE SERVICES of novel and elegant design, and of the highest finish. The following have been generally admired:—

The Portland Pattern, tastefully engraved.				The Louis-Quatorze Pattern, richly chased.			
Strong Silver Tea-pot	£12	15	0	Strong Silver Tea-pot	£15	10	0
Ditto Sugar Basin, gilt	7	4	0	Ditto Sugar Basin, gilt	8	5	0
Ditto Cream Ewer, gilt	5	5	0	Ditto Cream Ewer, gilt	5	15	0
Ditto Coffee Pot	16	18	0	Ditto Coffee Pot	17	17	0
	£42	0	0		£47	10	0

The Guide to the extensive Stock in the show-rooms contains the weights and descriptions of Silver Plate, of London manufacture, with copious information respecting Sheffield or Electro-plated Ware, illustrated with engravings. It may be had gratis, or will be forwarded, post free, on application.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manufacturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank.

DENT'S PATENT WATCHES and CLOCKS.—E. J. DENT begs leave to inform the Public that, in addition to his extensive Stock of Chronometers, Watches, and Clocks, he has purchased most of the Watches manufactured in Switzerland for the purpose of the Exhibition of 1851. E. J. Dent therefore solicits an inspection of his STOCK, amongst which "is the SMALLEST WATCH in the world," that attracted so much curiosity and admiration whilst at the Exhibition.—Ladies' gold watches, 8 guineas; gentlemen's, 10 guineas; youths' silver watches, 4 guineas; durable lever watches, 6 guineas.—E. J. DENT, Watch and Clockmaker by appointment to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, and H.I.M. the Emperor of Russia, 61, Strand (late 82), 33, Cockspur-street, and 34, Royal Exchange (clock-tower area).

ELKINGTON and CO., PATENTEES OF THE ELECTRO PLATE, MANUFACTURING SILVERSMITHS, BRONZISTS, &c.
Beg respectfully to call attention to their Establishments,
22, REGENT-STREET, } LONDON;
45, MOORGATE-STREET, }
And Manufactory, NEWHALL-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
At either of which places they have always an extensive stock of their own productions.

The Patentees feel the necessity of informing the public, that articles sold as "Electro-plated by Elkington's Process," offer no guarantee for their manufacture, unless such articles bear their Patent Mark, viz. "E. & Co. under a crown."

Estimates, Drawings, and Prices sent free by post.
Replating and Gilding as usual.

METCALFE & CO.'s NEW PATTERN TOOTH BRUSH & PENETRATING HAIR BRUSHES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose, 1s. An improved Clothes Brush, incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian bristles. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most successful manner. Smyrna Sponges.—By means of direct importations, Metcalfe & Co. are enabled to secure to their customers the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at METCALFE, BINGLEY & Co.'s Sole Establishment, 130 B, Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.

Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by some houses.

METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH POWDER, 2s. per box.

HEAL & SON'S EIDER DOWN QUILTS are made in three varieties. The BORDERED QUILT, the PLAIN QUILT, and the DUVET. The Bordered Quilt is in the usual form of bed quilts, and is a most elegant and luxurious article. The Plain Quilt is smaller, and is useful as an extra covering on the bed, or as a wrapper in the carriage, or on the couch. The Duvet is a loose case filled with Eider Down, as in general use on the Continent.

Lists of Prices and Sizes sent free by post, on application to HEAL & SON'S Bedding Factory, 196, opposite the Chapel, Tottenham-court-road.

LAMPS of ALL SORTS and PATTERNS.—The largest, as well as choicest assortment of PALMER'S MAGNUM and other CANDLESTICKS, CAMPHINE, ARGAND, and SOLAR LAMPS, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherché patterns, in ormolu, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier mâché, in existence, is at W. S. BURTON'S, and they are arranged in one large room, so that patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected.

PALMER'S CANDLES, 6d. and 6½d. a Pound.—Palmer's Patent Candles, all marked "Palmer."

Single or double wicks	6d. and 6½d. per pound.	
Mid. size, three wicks	[illegible]	ditto.
Magnums, three or four wicks	8d.	ditto.

English's Patent Camphine, in sealed cans, 4s. per gallon.

PAPIER MACHÉ and IRON TEA-TRAYS.—An assortment of Tea Trays and Waiters wholly unprecedented, whether as to extent, variety, or novelty, is now selling by WILLIAM S. BURTON, at prices much lower than usual, in consequence of his large recent cash purchases.

Gothic shape Papier Maché Trays, per set of three	....	from 20s. 0d. to 10 guineas.
Ditto Iron ditto	....	from 13s. 0d. to 4 guineas.
Convex shape ditto	....	from 7s. 6d.

An immense quantity of small Papier Maché and Iron Trays, many of them executed in the highest style of art, at about a quarter of their original cost, being old or slightly out of condition. These are especially worthy the attention of Tavern and Coffee-house keepers. Round and Gothic Waiters, Cake and Bread Baskets equally low.

DISH COVERS and HOT-WATER DISHES in every material, in great variety and of the newest and most recherché patterns. Tin Dish Covers, 6s. the set of six; Block Tin, 12s. 3d. to 28s. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 35s. to 58s. the set; Britannia Metal, with or without silver-plated handles, 76s. to 1l. 2s. the set; Sheffield plated, 10l. to 16l. 10s. the set. Block Tin Hot-water Dishes, with wells for gravy, 12s. to 30s.; Britannia Metal, 22s. to 77s.; Sheffield plated, full size, 9l. 10s.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has completed some extensive alterations in his premises, by which he has TEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS (all communicating), exclusive of the Shop, devoted solely to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY, including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated and Japanned Wares, so arranged and classified that Purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues with Engravings sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.

39, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street); Nos. 1 & 2, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 & 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

Established A.D. 1820.

CHARACTER FROM HANDWRITING.—Mr. WARREN, of 9, Great College-street, Westminster, continues, with great success, to DELINEATE THE CHARACTER OF INDIVIDUALS FROM THEIR HANDWRITING. All persons desirous of testing his art, are invited to forward a specimen of their ordinary writing, together with 13 postage stamps, and a mention of their sex and age, to the above address.

FOR STOPPING DECAYED TEETH.—Price 2s. 6d.—Patronized by Her Majesty and H.R.H. Prince Albert.—Mr. HOWARD'S WHITE SUCCEDANEUM for stopping Decayed Teeth, however large the cavity. It is placed in the tooth in a soft state, without any pressure or pain, and immediately HARDENS INTO A WHITE ENAMEL. It will remain in the tooth many years, rendering extraction unnecessary, and arresting the further progress of decay, and is far superior to any thing ever before used, as it will NEVER BECOME DISCOLOURED in the Tooth. All persons use it themselves with ease, as full directions are inclosed. Prepared only by Mr. Howard, Surgeon-Dentist, 17, George-street, Hanover-square, who will send it into the country free by post.—Sold by Savory, 220, Regent-street; Sanger, 150, and Hannay, 63, Oxford-street; Butler, 4, Cheapside; Johnston, 68, Cornhill; and all medicine venders in the kingdom. Price 2s. 6d.—Mr. Howard continues to supply the loss of Teeth on his NEW SYSTEM of SELF-ADHESION, without springs or wires. This method does not require the extraction of any Teeth or Roots, or any painful operation whatever.—17, George-street, Hanover-square. At home from 10 till 4.

JOHN MORTLOCK'S CHINA and EARTHENWARE BUSINESS is CARRIED ON in OXFORD-STREET only. The premises are the most extensive in London, and contain an ample assortment of every description of goods of the first manufacturers. A great variety of Dinner Services at Four Guineas each.—250, Oxford-street, near Hyde Park.

SEASONABLE PRESENTS.—At this festive period of the year the following unrivalled discoveries for the TOILET are called into increased requisition, namely:—

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL, for creating and sustaining a luxuriant Head of Hair;
ROWLANDS' KALYDOR, for rendering the Skin soft, fair, and blooming;
ROWLANDS' ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE, for imparting a pearl-like whiteness to the Teeth; and
ROWLANDS' AQUA D'ORO, a fragrant and spirituous Perfume, an essential accompaniment to places of public amusement, and crowded assemblies.

The patronage of Royalty throughout Europe, and the high appreciation by Rank and Fashion, with the well-known infallible efficacy of these articles give them a celebrity unparalleled, and render them peculiarly

ELEGANT AND SEASONABLE PRESENTS.

BEWARE of SPURIOUS IMITATIONS.

The only GENUINE of each bears the name of "ROWLANDS'" preceding that of the Article on the Wrapper or Label.

Sold by A. ROWLAND & SONS, 20, Hatton-garden, London; and by Chemists and Perfumers.

TREASURES of NATURE.—It has been well remarked that there is not an imperfection that flesh is heir to for which a remedy is not at hand, to discover which we have only to search the vast laboratory of nature. A more apt illustration can scarcely be offered than in the application of a natural production, of American growth, namely, the Balm of Columbia, in cases where the human head has been deprived of its becoming and natural ornament. As a promoter of growth, strengthener, and restorer of the hair, OLDRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA is unrivalled, and in cases of baldness its virtues are inestimable.—3s. 6d., 6s. and 11s. per bottle; no other prices. Ask for Oldridge's Balm, and never be persuaded to use any other article as a substitute.—13, Wellington-st. North, seven doors north of the Strand.

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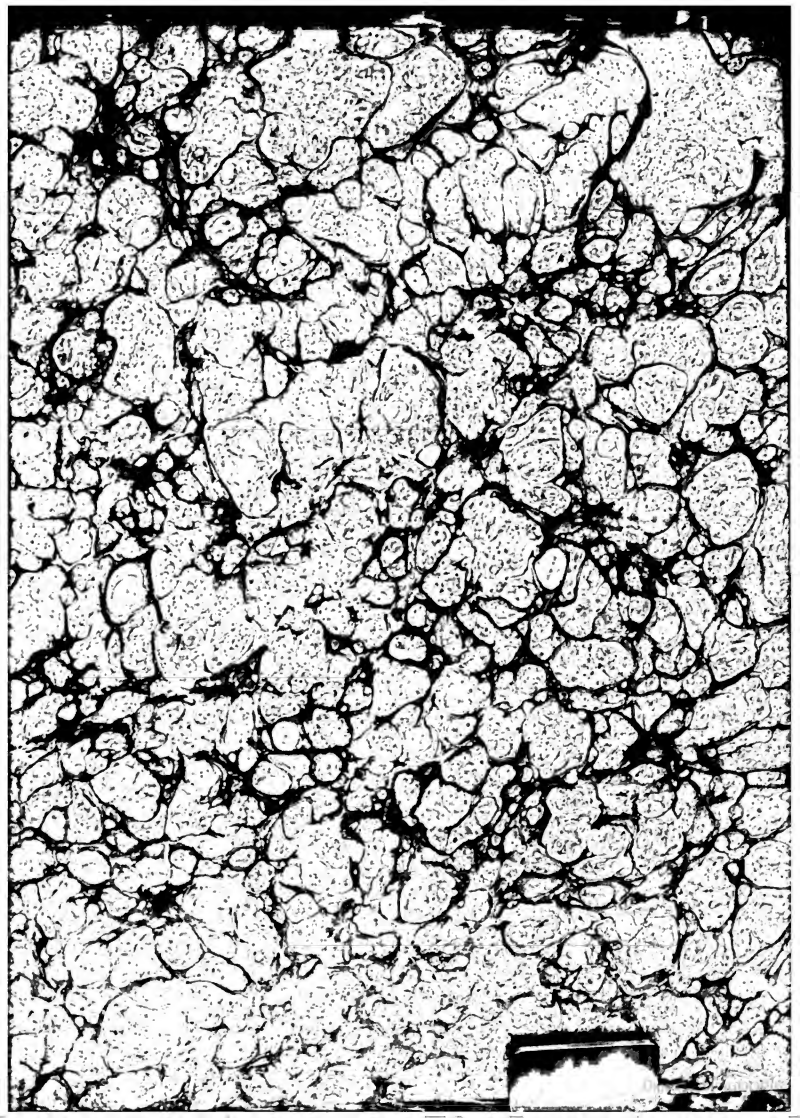
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